



Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Date: Tuesday, 8 March 2022
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Members (Quorum 3)

Shane Bartlett (Chairman), Andy Canning (Vice-Chairman), Jon Andrews, Piers Brown, Brian Heatley, Mark Roberts, David Shortell, David Tooke and Bill Trite

Chief Executive: Matt Prosser, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic Services on 01305 252209 / lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting, apart from any items listed in the exempt part of this agenda.

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Agenda

Item	Pages
1. APOLOGIES	
To receive any apologies for absence.	
2. MINUTES	
To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on:	
• 25 March 2021	
• 11 May 2021	
• 12 May 2021	
• 13 July 2021	
• 21 September 2021	
• 16 November 2021	
• 7 January 2022	
• 25 January 2022	

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To disclose any pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interests as set out in the adopted Code of Conduct. In making their disclosure councillors are asked to state the agenda item, the nature of the interest and any action they propose to take as part of their declaration.

If required, further advice should be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE**

To receive any updates from the Chairman of the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Representatives of town or parish councils and members of the public who live, work or represent an organisation within the Dorset Council area are welcome to submit up to two questions or two statements for each meeting. Alternatively, you could submit one question and one statement for each meeting.

All submissions must be emailed in full to lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk **by 8.30am on Thursday 3 March 2022.**

When submitting your question(s) and/or statement(s) please note that:

- no more than three minutes will be allowed for any one question or statement to be asked/read
- a question may include a short pre-amble to set the context and this will be included within the three minute period
- please note that sub divided questions count towards your total of two
- when submitting a question please indicate who the question is for (e.g. the name of the committee or Portfolio Holder)
- Include your name, address and contact details. Only your name will be published but we may need your other details to contact you about your question or statement in advance of the meeting.
- questions and statements received in line with the council's rules for public participation will be published as a supplement to the agenda
- all questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting.

6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

To receive questions submitted by councillors.

Councillors can submit up to two valid questions at each meeting and sub divided questions count towards this total. Questions and statements received will be published as a supplement to the agenda and all questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting.

The submissions must be emailed in full to lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on Thursday 3 March 2022.

[Dorset Council Constitution](#) – Procedure Rule 13

7. LOCAL LAND CHARGES SERVICE UPDATE 5 - 14

To consider a report of the Head of Legal Services.

8. POST IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW OF THE DOG-RELATED PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 15 - 72

To consider a report of the Service Manager Environmental Protection.

9. PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY

A review of the relevant Dorset Council performance dashboard to inform the scrutiny committee's forward plan and identify items for deep dives.

Committee members to flag up if any areas for potential review:

Operational – Corporate: Councillors Brian Heatley and David Shortell

Operational – Place: Councillors Mark Roberts, David Tooke and Jon Andrews

HR: Councillors Andy Canning and Bill Trite

The Chairman, Councillor Shane Bartlett, maintains an overview of all the above areas.

10. PLACE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN 73 - 78

To review the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee Forward Plan.

11. CABINET FORWARD PLAN AND DECISIONS 79 - 94

To review the Cabinet Forward Plan and decisions taken at recent

meetings.

The Cabinet Forward Plan and decisions of recent meetings are provided to members of the Place & Resources Scrutiny Committee to review and identify any potential post decision scrutiny to be undertaken, by scheduling items into the forward plan to review after a period of implementation.

12. URGENT ITEMS

To consider any items of business which the Chairman has had prior notification and considers to be urgent pursuant to section 100B (4) b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for the urgency shall be recorded in the minutes.

13. EXEMPT BUSINESS

To move the exclusion of the press and the public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph x of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting whilst the item of business is considered.

There is no exempt business.

Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee 8 March 2022 Local Land Charges Service Update

For Review and Consultation

Portfolio Holder: Cllr J Haynes, Corporate Development and Transformation

Local Councillor(s):

Executive Director: J Mair, Corporate Director, Legal & Democratic

Report Author: Grace Evans
Title: Head of Legal Services
Tel: 01305 225021
Email: grace.evans@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Report Status: Public

Recommendation: Members are asked to note and comment on the progress and current service position.

Reason for Recommendation:

To provide Members with information about the current service, improved search response times and any further action to be taken.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council is responsible for processing land charges search requests, which are commonly made as part of property purchases.
- 1.2 A report was presented to the 21 September 2021 Committee meeting, with updates for the Chairman ahead of 16 November 21 and January Committee meetings.
- 1.3 Significant progress has been made by the land charges team, who have reduced response times to an average of 37 working days during January 2022. By 13 February (and the time of writing this report) response times for the first half of February had reduced to an average 28 working days, with work continuing to achieve further reductions to restore the service to response times of less than 10 working days.

1.4 This report is to provide the Committee with an update on improved search response times and actions which have been taken and actions to be taken.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 Additional staff have been recruited to respond to the increase demand and associated backlog. The cost of these staff is met through the income generated by land charge fees.

3. Well-being and Health Implications

n/a

4. Climate implications

n/a

5. Other Implications

n/a

6. Risk Assessment

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Medium

Residual Risk: Low

7. Equalities Impact Assessment

n/a

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 Record of search numbers for the financial years 2019/20 to 2021/22

Appendix 2 Record of response times from 21 September 2021 to 11 February 2022

9. Background Papers

Report to Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee 21 September 2021

10. Background

10.1 Local land charges searches (register searches known as LLC1 and local authority searches known as CON29) are made during property purchases. Search requests are generally made by purchasers (through their solicitors or search agents). Most are submitted electronically. Local land charges searches are generally required by lenders, although local authority search indemnity insurance can be an acceptable alternative for some purchasers and lenders.

- 10.2 The Council's Land Charges Team delivers this service.
- 10.3 The government has a target of a maximum of 10 working days within which these searches should be returned to applicants. As set out above, local authority search indemnity insurance may be an alternative for some purchasers and lenders.
- 10.4 This target date has not been achieved for the whole Dorset Council area since October 2020.
- 10.5 The report to the 21 September 2021 meeting of the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee provided a detailed explanation of the factors leading to the delayed response times; namely, the changes to the residential stamp duty threshold from 8 July 2020 until 30 September 2021 and resultant substantial and sustained increase in search numbers, at a time of team vacancies and while the service migrated to a new ICT system.
- 10.6 This report provides an update on improved search response times, numbers of searches being received, the team and future transformation work.

11. Search response times and search numbers

- 11.1 Search response times for each month since September 2021 are described below with details of the numbers of searches received each month, which can also be see in Appendix 1.

September

- 11.2 At the time of the 21 September 2021 report, average response times for search requests were:
- East Dorset area average 25 working days;
 - Combined North, West, Weymouth, and Purbeck area average 52 working days from the date of receipt.

- 11.3 803 search requests were received during September (compared with 1080 in July and 892 in August).

October

- 11.4 Response times continued to during October, resulting in an average response for October for the whole Dorset area of 62 working days from the date of receipt.
- 11.5 During October, the numbers of searches being received of 916 remained significantly higher than comparative months in 2019 and higher than September despite the end of the stamp duty reductions from 30

September 2021. During October, our 6 new members of staff were being trained and the final migration of the East area land charges service into the new Dorset system took place.

November

- 11.6 During November, the team achieved a planned reduction in response times, to an average of 51 working days.
- 11.7 November was the first month with a fully operational team, although new staff were only recently trained and still gaining experience. All parts of the service were within the new Dorset system. The number of search requests of 818 continued at an increased level compared with 2019, although they were less than October.

December

- 11.8 By the end of December, response times had reduced to an average 43 working days.
- 11.9 The team would expect to see seasonal variations in search request numbers; fewer searches during the December to February period and then increasing towards the summer. Search numbers reduced slightly during December to 622, but that is higher than expected for the time of year and higher than compared to 2019.

January

- 11.10 Search response times continued to reduce during January, averaging at 37 working days.
- 11.11 Annual leave over the festive period and sickness absence due to Covid-19 in late December and early January impacted the team, who still achieved this further reduction in response times.
- 11.12 763 searches were received during January, again higher than expected for the time of year and compared with 2019.

February

- 11.13 At the time of writing this report (13 February 2022) search response times for the first half of February were an average of 28 working days. In this time 398 searches were received.

11.14 Updated response times have and continue to be publicised on the Dorset Council website every 2-3 weeks.

12 Staffing

12.1 As explained in the 21 September 2021 report 6 new permanent staff were employed during September 2021, filling vacancies, and creating an additional four FTE posts.

12.2 The team is 12.5 FTE plus 2 FTE temporary contract posts with continued support from staff via the Skills Agency.

12.3 The staff who joined Dorset Council in September 2021 have received training and are gaining experience in processing searches.

12.4 The entire team have and continue to work tirelessly to process searches and revert to normal response times as quickly as possible.

13 Action Taken

13.1 Weekly data is available to the team to plan workloads, monitor progress and update the response times on the Dorset Council website every two to three weeks.

13.2 Following some feedback regarding the accessibility of the team a single email address for the team was established and publicised for use.

13.3 The team will need to focus their effort on processing searches for some time yet and some arrangements to manage enquiries will need to continue. Any automatic responses with contact details are clear, consistent, and publicised.

14 Future Action

14.1 The land charges service has been migrated to the new system and the team continue to familiarise themselves with the system and to make refinements and improvements to their use of it.

14.2 As explained in the 21 September 2021 report, significant work is required to review, converge, and harmonise the legacy land charges registers. This is necessary to ensure all data, is within or can be accessed by the new system. There are five legacy land charges registers. Some of them were held outside of the legacy systems and so remain outside of the new system. This convergence task will take significant time and staff resource and will be heavily reliant on staff from the project team who are currently carrying out the migrations. Staff within the land charges service are also fully occupied with search responses at this time.

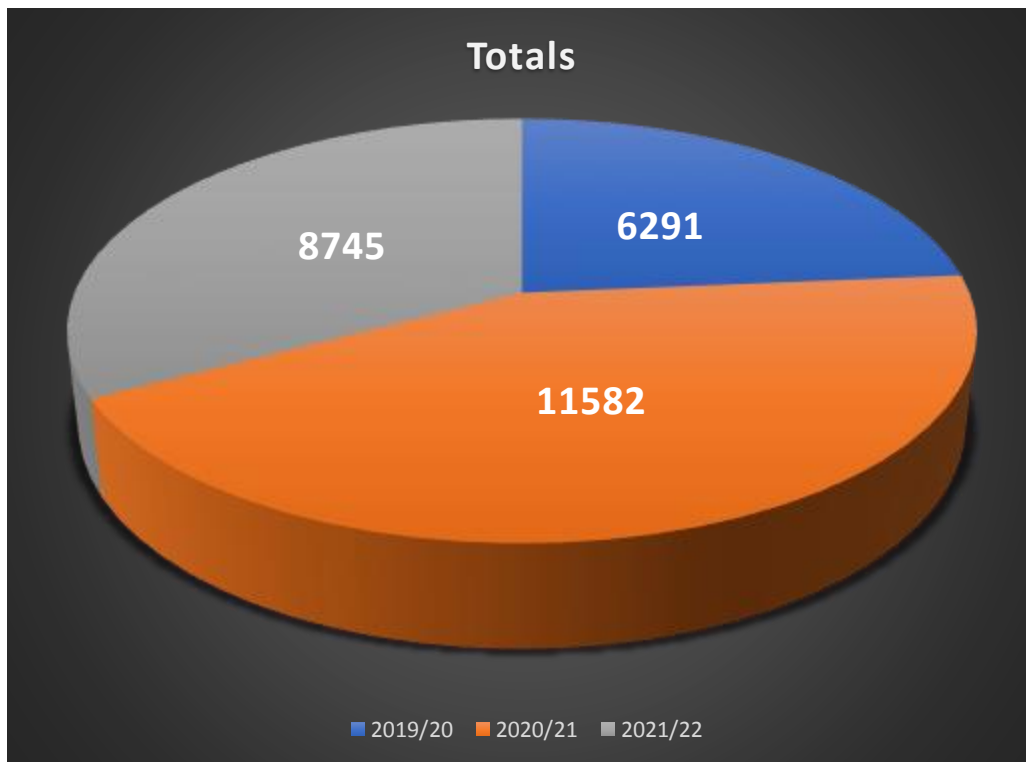
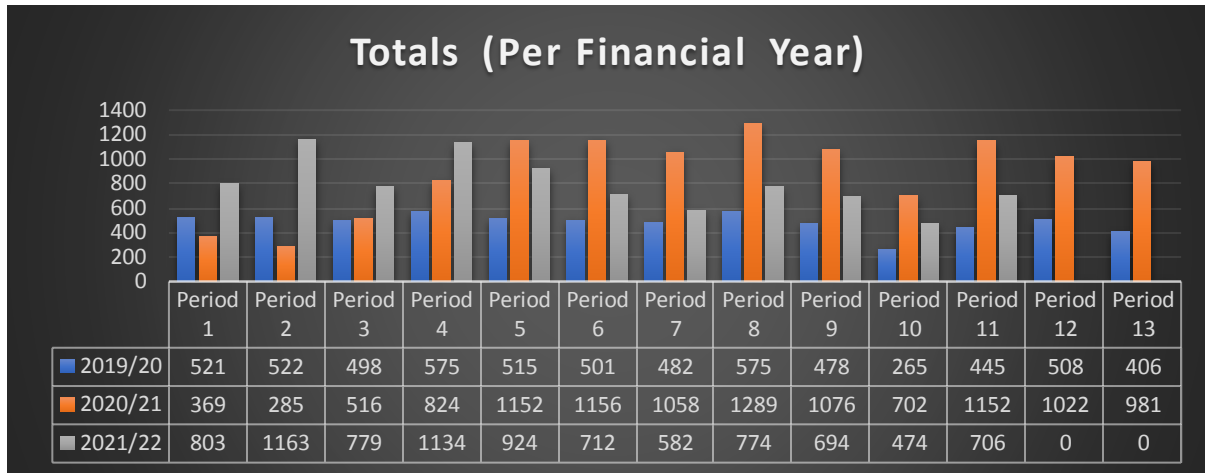
- 14.3 Work to converge the land charges register is being scoped with as part of the ongoing Planning Transformation project, which includes allocation of staff resource and timings.
- 14.4 The team are also in the planning stage of arrangements to create a public facing Land Charges Portal, to enable customers to submit and pay for their search enquiry electronically. We already have this type of arrangement in place with the National Land Information Service (commonly used by agents to submit searches for their clients). Currently any customer not going through NLIS can submit their search request electronically, but Land Charges Officers then call customers to take payments over the telephone, which can be time consuming. If it is possible to set up a portal for use by customers, it would almost entirely remove the need for Land Charges Officers to call customers to take payments. This would provide an improved service to our customers and release more Officer time for processing searches.

Footnote:

Issues relating to financial, legal, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.

Appendix 1

Record of search numbers for the financial years 2019/20 to 2021/22



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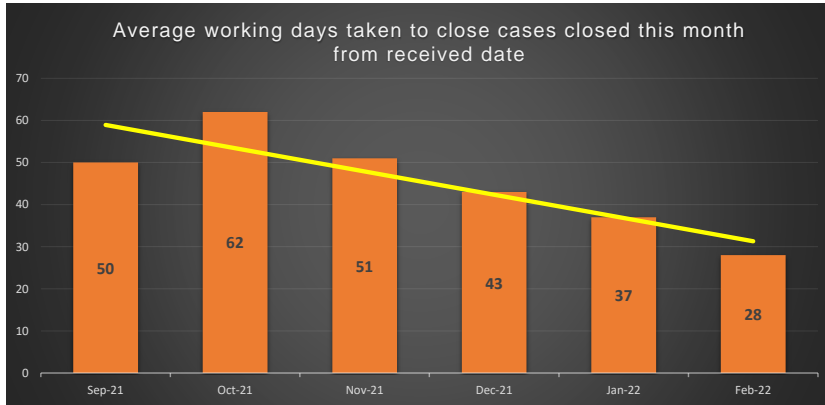
Response Times

Notes:

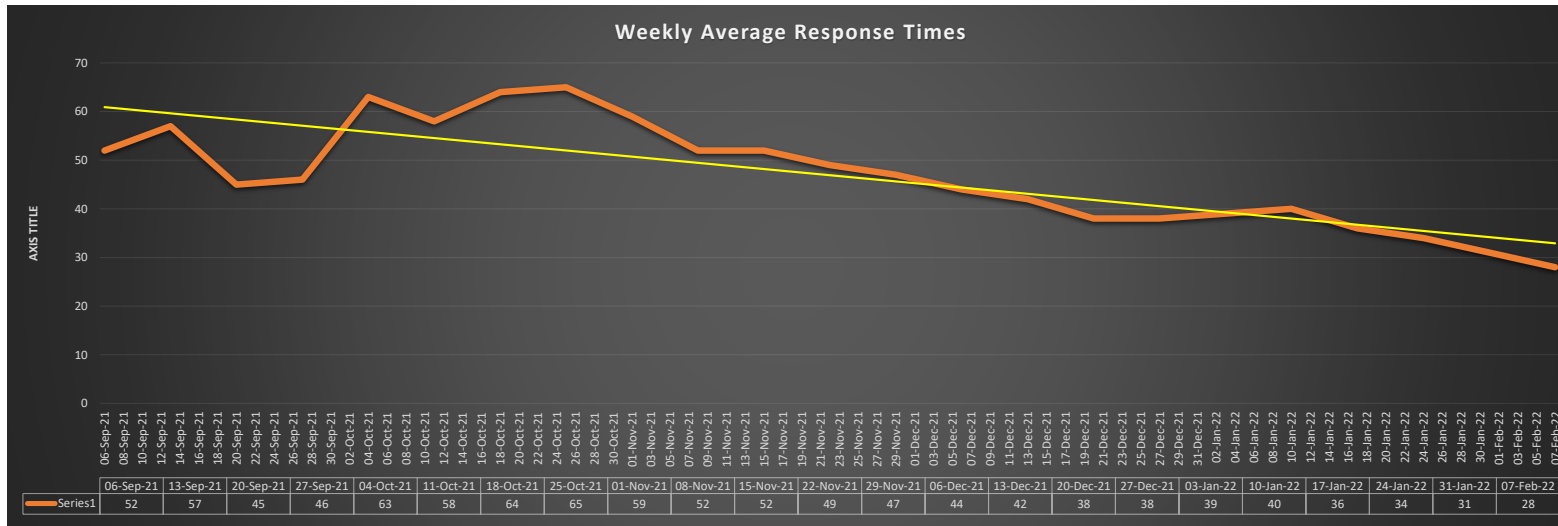
Last data extract: Wednesday, February 16, 2022

October 2021 - Last migration to single IT system

Monthly Average Response Times Taken



Weekly Average Response Times Taken



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Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee 8 March 2022

Post Implementation Review of the Dog- related Public Spaces Protection Order

For Review and Consultation

Portfolio Holder: Cllr L Miller, Customer and Community Services

Local Councillor(s): All

Executive Director: J Sellgren, Executive Director of Place

Report Author: Janet Moore

Title: Service Manager Environmental Protection

Tel: 01305838413

Email: janet.moore@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Report Status: Public

Recommendations:

1. To consider and support the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1 - Lyme Regis

To review the issues and availability of dog exercise areas in this locality. Officers to continue to work with the Town Council and other interested parties to explore options.

Recommendation 2 - Enforcement

To improve the effectiveness of enforcement, officers will continue to work with partner organisations and identify/authorise appropriate officers to assist with enforcement duties.

Recommendation 3 - Enforcement

To obtain improved local information which will help ensure a more targeted approach to patrolling and enforcement. This may include local surveys and directed community engagement.

Recommendation 4 – Public awareness

The Council's website gives locations where restrictions are in place but does not give information about alternative locations where dog walkers can exercise their dogs without restriction. Officers should look to address this.

Recommendation 5 – Monitoring

For officers to encourage and monitor further feedback about the Order which will inform the statutory review in 2023.

2. To advise on any further work which your committee would like officers to undertake in respect of the Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order.

Reason for Recommendations:

1. To ensure that provisions are operating effectively.
2. To ensure that provisions are being enforced in a proportionate and equitable manner.
3. To help inform the preparation of subsequent provisions.

1. Executive Summary

A Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order gives councils a tool to help tackle irresponsible dog ownership and ensure that public spaces are safe and can be enjoyed by all. Orders enable generic and specific restrictions to be placed on certain public open spaces. Provisions seek to find the balance between public health and safety and the freedom of owners to socialise with their dogs and provide them with adequate exercise. Orders must be fair, proportionate, and consistent and recognise and redress the impact that any restriction may have on those who are vulnerable or reliant on assistance dogs.

Prior to Local Government Reorganisation in Dorset, there were many dog-related controls in existence in the borough and district councils. In January 2021, a single Order came into force within the Dorset Council

area. This single set of provisions has made it easier for residents and visitors to understand the provisions that are now in place. Appropriate signage and enforcement complement the requirements of the Order.

This report sets out to review the first year of the Order's implementation, identify any key issues and make recommendations for Members consideration.

2. Financial Implications

No financial implications at this stage.

3. Well-being and Health Implications

Dogs provide companionship to their owners and benefits to health. However, dogs must be kept under appropriate control to prevent injury and the risk of disease.

4. Climate implications

There are no climate implications.

5. Other Implications

There are no other implications arising from the recommendations contained within this report in terms of impacts on other service areas within the Council.

6. Risk Assessment

Having considered the risks associated with this report, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

7. Equalities Impact Assessment

An assessment was undertaken when developing the Order. This has been reviewed in line with the accessibility issues highlighted in the report (attached as Appendix 1).

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 EqIA for the Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order

Appendix 2 The Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order

Appendix 3 The Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order Infographic

Appendix 4 [The Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation Report](#)

(Click on the above link to view Appendix 4)

9. Background Papers

Public Spaces Protection Orders – Guidance for Councils [PSPO Guidance](#)

Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 [ASBCP Act](#)

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 Statutory Guidance [ASBCP Statutory Guidance](#)

Dealing with Irresponsible Dog Ownership DEFRA [DEFRA guidance](#)

10. Background

10.1 The Dorset Council Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) was implemented on the 1 January 2021. This followed a public consultation the results of which were used to help shape the Order.

10.2 For a PSPO to be made, the elements within it must meet the following two conditions which are prescribed in the legislation.

Condition 1

- Activities carried out in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those living in the locality, or;
- It is likely that the activities will be carried out in a public place within that area and they will have such an effect.

Condition 2

The effect or likely effect of the activities:

- Is or is likely to be of a persistent or continuing nature;
- Is or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable; and
- Justifies the restrictions imposed by the order.

10.3 The aim of the Order is to ensure public spaces can be enjoyed by all. Responsible dog ownership is encouraged and the welfare needs of dogs, which include adequate exercise and social contact, must be met. In doing so, we must also ensure that the risks associated with residual fouling and dog attacks or other aggressive behaviours are reduced.

- 10.4 The prevention of disease is an especially important aspect of the Order. Ocular toxocariasis is an infection caused by roundworms, the eggs of which can be found in the faeces of dogs and cats. Although rare, it most often affects young children and can cause serious ophthalmologic disease, including blindness. Other bacteria, found within the faeces, can also cause illness.
- 10.5 The Order contains four main restrictions (attached as Appendix 2).
- Prohibiting access to certain beaches at certain times of the year.
 - Prohibiting access to certain other locations for example children's playgrounds and sports pitches.
 - Requiring dogs to be kept on a lead in specific locations or by direction from an authorised officer.
 - Requiring persons in control of a dog to pick up and correctly dispose of the dog's faeces.
- 10.6 Authorised Officers enforce the provisions of the Order by patrolling and investigating complaints. The officers can require owners/ dog walkers to control their dogs where, for example, the dog is not under control, shows aggressive tendencies or causes anti-social behaviour.
- 10.7 The Order makes it an offence for non-compliance with the restrictions. Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued, and prosecution sought for any non-payment or repeated offences. A proportionate approach to enforcement is taken and for the most part officers will seek to engage with the public when on patrols, offering friendly advice and guidance on responsible dog ownership.
- 10.8 Fixed Penalty Notices command a fine set at £100.00 which is reduced to £75 if paid within 7 days.

11.0 Animal Welfare and Dog Control Team

- 11.1 The Animal Welfare and Dog Control team is located in Environmental Protection. The team of six officers have a varied and busy workload;
- The inspection and licensing of approximately 130 animal establishments. These include dog breeders, animal boarders, riding establishments and zoos/dangerous wild animal premises (approximately 40% of team workload).
 - Dealing with concerns about animal cruelty and complaints of irresponsible dog ownership such as attacks on other dogs or barking nuisance (approximately 20% of team workload).

- Patrolling hotspots to check for compliance with the PSPO restrictions (approximately 20% of team workload).
- Responding to reports of strays and collecting them, taking to the rescue centre and enabling return to the owner where possible (approximately 10% of team workload).
- Special projects, as an example, officers are currently working with Trading Standards colleagues to disrupt the market in illegal puppy sales (approximately 10% of the team workload).

The balance shifts in the summer period when more patrols are needed with the influx of visitors to Dorset.

12.0 Consultation

12.1 As part of the preparation of the draft Order, a public consultation exercise was undertaken which demonstrated a range of views on dog control. Whilst some respondents wanted more freedoms for themselves and their dogs, others including some landowners, wanted tighter controls for the protection of public safety and also agricultural stock.

12.2 The consultation had a high level of participation with 8600 responses with a good representation of ages responding. Dog owners made up 60% of respondents. Twenty-five Parish and Town Councils responded, with local and national organisations taking part including Dorset Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner who are statutory consultees. Other consultees included community representatives and relevant landowners. Key findings from the consultation are summarised in the infographic which accompanied the consultation report (Appendix 3).

12.3 A petition was received from the Lyme Regis Dog Friendly Group asking the Council to reconsider the proposed restriction for dogs on leads at Front Beach, Lyme Regis.

13.0 Post-implementation issues

13.1 Since the Order came into effect, officers have been monitoring enquiries/complaints about the provisions (40 to date). The main issues are;

13.2 Lyme Regis Front Town Beach

The requirement for dogs on-lead on Front Beach during the off-season period is different in relation to the other beaches in the Order.

As part of the consultation, Lyme Regis Town Council had requested an all-year ban on dogs for this beach because they felt there was a significant problem with fouling and use of the beach all year round. The restriction for dogs to be on-lead during the off-season period was seen as a compromise position. Alternative off-lead sites were identified at neighbouring beaches, Monmouth and East Cliff.

- 13.3 However, some residents raised objections that these alternative beaches were not suitable during high tide as they became too wet and slippery and at other times did not have level ground because of the layer of pebbles. Further concerns were raised that those with limited mobility were being discriminated against as they could not use these locations without increased risk of injury.
- 13.4 In response, officers looked at other nearby locations for exercising dogs off-lead however, options are limited in this area. As an improvement, an easy access walkway was laid on Monmouth Beach, a platform reaching to the water line where it is more even ground. Officers worked with Lyme Regis Town Council in securing grant money through the Welcome Back Fund, which paid for this platform. Unfortunately, during the rougher winter-weather it had to be removed as it became difficult to use but it will be re-laid during the spring.
- 13.5 Suitable locations for off-lead exercise during the off-peak season in this specific locality is problematic. Under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, owners of dogs are required to provide for their welfare needs. Statutory guidance advises this to include providing the necessary amount of exercise each day, which may require dogs to be off lead whilst under their control. It has been suggested adopting periods at the beginning and the end of the day when dogs can be exercised off-lead on the beach, this is the case on some restricted beaches in Cornwall. The Kennel Club has also suggested this option for all the beaches during the summer period where on-lead restrictions currently apply. This would require beaches to be cleansed daily (should fouling not be removed) in readiness for family use.
- 13.6 Sports Pitch restrictions – eastern areas of Ferndown and Potterne Park

Complaints were received from a few residents wanting to be able to walk their dogs across the grass pitches when they were not in use. They also requested that the provision within the Order, that dogs must be on-lead within 5m of the pitch, to be removed. Officers explained that these are often areas where children play and the risk from residual faecal matter or

dogs interrupting sporting activities is significant. Officers identified other areas in the vicinity that could be used for off-lead exercise.

13.7 The Order allows landowners or persons in control of land to give consent to certain dog related activities on their land. Both Wimborne Town Council and Wool Parish Council have taken up this right which, in effect, exempts dog owners/walkers from the dog on-lead and prohibition restrictions on named marked pitches in these council areas.

13.8 Enforcement

A few enquiries/complaints raised concerns about the lack of visible, uniformed patrol officers and questioned the level of enforcement. An important objective for officers is to engage with both dog owners and non-owners alike, offering friendly advice and guidance as required. Formal action is taken where required but is problematic for a number of reasons.

13.9 There are a small number of officers covering a range of duties in a large geographical area, being in the right place at the right time to witness an offence is difficult. All reports of fouling are investigated but the evidence supplied often doesn't reach the standard required to take enforcement action.

13.10 Officers undertake weekend patrols where required but they do not patrol in the mornings and evenings outside of daylight hours. If visibility is poor it is difficult to witness offences or obtain sufficient evidence to take enforcement action. Unfortunately, this tends to be the time when fouling offences occur. Additionally, it is not considered a proportionate response to undertake covert patrols so officers are relatively easy to identify in their uniform and marked vehicles.

13.11 Officers usually patrol in designated hotspots (informed by complaints or local knowledge). If offences are witnessed, a graduated approach to enforcement is taken. For certain offences, the officer will ask the offender to remedy the situation in the first instance as they may be unfamiliar with the restrictions. For example, they may ask for a dog to be put on a lead where that is a requirement. For other offences, such as fouling or where there is a blatant disregard for the rules or repeat offending the officer should issue a notice straight away. However, recognising repeat offenders is challenging unless you know the area well and patrol frequently.

13.12 To assist with raising awareness and enforcement, Dorset Council has authorised 20 Town and Parish Council Officers. This covers the areas of Beaminster, Charmouth, Lytchett Minster and Upton, Shaftesbury,

Weymouth and Wimborne. It should be noted that enforcing the PSPO is not officer's substantive role and is ancillary to their main duties for the Town and Parish Councils.

13.13 In gathering information for the report, we looked at the enforcement approach taken by other Councils in the region. A number of Councils, including nearby Local Authorities have served few if any Fixed Penalty Notices. In comparison, in the past year, Cornwall Council has served over forty notices for fouling or other PSPO breaches. There are two main differences between our service delivery and that of Cornwall Council. Firstly, the animal welfare inspection and licensing function for Cornwall Council is carried out by a different team. This means the core responsibilities for the dog wardens are to patrol and deal with strays. Further, service level agreements are in place with the Town and Parish Councils that enable extra patrols to be carried out by the parking wardens as a paid for service. These additional patrols are considered significant in terms of enforcement as parking wardens know their local area and importantly, have confidence and experience in enforcement procedures.

13.14 Dog Waste Bins

Some complaints have been received about the lack of facilities to deposit waste. Dorset Council encourage bagged dog waste to be placed in the general litter bins that are managed by the Council. Some Town and Parish Councils supply specific dog waste bins.

Dog waste can be taken home and disposed of in the general waste stream. This is actively encouraged.

13.15 Other Issues

Other issues include the restriction on the Nothe Fort, Weymouth where currently dogs are required on-lead all year in the gardens (except for a rough patch of land where dogs can be off lead); the interpretation made by Portland Town Council on a restriction on the land they own at Officers Field; restrictions and signage at Charmouth Beaches. All complaints have been responded to and issues addressed where possible.

14.0 Future review

Prior to the expiry of the current Order in January 2024, the Council is required to undertake a review before any extension, change or renewal of the Order to identify whether restrictions remain appropriate; need to be amended or new restrictions added. In line with legislation and Government guidance, this will include a public consultation exercise which is due to commence in the Spring/ Summer period of 2023. The consultation report findings and recommendations will be subject to the

usual democratic process through Member Overview and Cabinet approval.

Footnote:

Issues relating to financial, legal, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Before completing this EqIA please ensure you have read the guidance on the intranet.

Initial Information

Name:	Jane Williams
Job Title:	Team Leader Environmental Protection
Email address:	jane.williams@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Members of the assessment team:	Jane Williams & Janet Moore
Date assessment started:	1 August 2020
Date of completion:	18 September 2020
Review	26 April 2021
Version Number:	3

Part 1: Background Information

Is this (please tick or expand the box to explain)

Existing	
Changing, updating or revision	X
New or proposed	
Other	

Is this (please tick or expand the box to explain)

Internal (employees only)	
External (residents, communities, partners)	X
Both of the above	

What is the name of your policy, strategy, project or service being assessed?

Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO), made under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

What is the policy, strategy, project or service designed to do? (Include the aims, purpose and intended outcomes of the policy)

To protect public health and public safety from the adverse actions of dogs and less responsible dog owners. To protect the welfare of animals including dogs. To support the welfare of people through responsible dog ownership.

What is the background or context to the proposal?

The former district and borough councils had a range of legislative controls (including Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) to control the behaviour/actions of dogs and owners in public spaces. These requirements impose controls on dog owner's in order to safeguard public health and safety, the

safety of animals and maintain the quality of the environment for the local residents. These have carried through into Dorset Council and are now due for review. It is proposed to introduce a harmonised and simplified single Dog-related PSPO to give greater consistency and clarity about the control of dogs in public spaces which will benefit residents and visitors.

Types of controls can include;

- Removal of dog fouling
- Exclusion of dogs from certain public spaces either permanently or during specified periods
- Requirement for dogs to be kept on-lead permanently or during specified periods
- Requirement for dogs to be on-lead when required by an Authorised Officer of the council
- Specifying the maximum lead length where on-lead controls exist
- Specifying the number of dogs to be walked at any one time (usually used for commercial walkers where large numbers exists – usually in urban parks)
- Any other dog related restriction that meets the legal test and ensures the control of a dog in a specified area or controls antisocial behaviour from dogs and less responsible owners.

The Order will be in force for a period of 3-years after which it is due for statutory review.

The enforcement of this is Order is via fixed penalty notice currently set by central government within the Antisocial Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 at £100 to be paid within 28 days, reduced to £75.00 if paid within 14.

Part 2: Gathering information

What sources of data, information, evidence and research was used to inform you about the people your proposal will have an impact on?

Data from the following sources:

- Census 2011
- Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019
- ONS Neighbourhood Statistics
- Public Health England – Health Profiles 2017
- Dorset Statistics via [GeoWessex](#) - **Appendix A** gives the appropriate data on age, sex and disability as percentages of the population in Dorset.
- [Assistance Dogs UK](#)
- Equality & Human Rights Commission

Consultation has also taken place with the following organisations;

- The Kennel Club – attached at **Appendix B**
- Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Assistance Dogs UK

Dogs are used to assist owners with various disabilities by guiding and/or performing tasks. There is no data on numbers of dog owners or specifically accredited assistance dogs, but it is appreciated that their needs must be considered as part of this process. This is a legal requirement of the Equality Act 2010.

The Equality & Human Rights Commission (EHRC) define an assistance dog as dogs that are trained to help people with hearing difficulties, epilepsy, diabetes, physical mobility problems and more. Assistance dogs carry out a variety of practical tasks for people as well as supporting their independence and confidence. Assistance dogs are not pets and are treated as 'auxiliary aids'. Assistance dogs are highly trained which means they:

- will not wander freely around the premises
- will sit or lie quietly on the floor next to their owner
- are unlikely to foul in a public place

Most are instantly recognisable by a harness or jacket. However, the law does not require the dog to wear a harness or jacket to identify it as an assistance dog.

Some, but not all assistance dog users, will carry an ID book giving information about the assistance dog and the training organisation together with other useful information, again, this is not a legal requirement.

(Source: Assistance Dogs: a guide for all businesses, EHRC; 2018)

Assistance dogs are usually qualified by one of the charitable organisations registered as members of Assistance Dogs UK and as such an assistance dog is legally permitted to accompany its client, owner, or partner, at all times and in all paces within the United Kingdom.

The Society for Companion Animal Studies define a therapy dog as a dog that is used to benefit people in a therapeutic way. This incorporates wide range of potential activities with a wide range of people e.g. some pets take part in visiting programmes, whilst others take part in structured activities as part of a therapeutic programme. Therapy dogs in the UK are not considered to be assistance dogs and do not have the same legal privileges.

(Source: www.scas.org.uk)

The Department of Work and Pensions is formulating a definition. We will take account of its findings which may impact the EqIA and shape future Orders.

The Dorset Council Dog related PSPO 2020 is attached at **Appendix C**.

Information on certain definitions is attached at **Appendix D**.

What did this data, information, evidence and research tell you?

Data and service knowledge/information suggested that;

1. The most impacted protected characteristics are age and disability, with some impact likely for race and ethnicity, and those suffering social & economic deprivation:
2. Attitudes towards dogs and dog ownership can often be polarised and the actions of the council need to achieve a balance between public health and safety and, the benefits to owners especially those with key protected characteristics that may rely upon their dogs for assistance in their everyday lives.

Is further information needed to help inform this proposal?

No

Part 3: Engagement and Consultation

What engagement or consultation has taken place as part of this proposal?

A public consultation to help the preparation of the draft Order was undertaken for 15-weeks, with response received from over 8,600 people, extended due to the implications of Covid-19. A separate EqIA was carried out for the consultation process. The consultation report, Appendix B, can be accessed on the consultation tracker webpages [the webpage](#).

Consultation has also taken place with the following organisations;

- The Kennel Club
- Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Assistance Dogs UK

How will the outcome of consultation be fed back to those who you consulted with?

A consultation report has been produced and has been published on the council's website. The consultation report will also form part of reports to Place & Resources Overview Committee and Cabinet presenting the draft Order for approval.

Please refer to the Equality Impact Assessment Guidance before completing this section.

Not every proposal will require an EqIA. If you decide that your proposal does **not** require an EqIA, it is important to show that you have given this adequate consideration. The data and research that you have used to inform you about the people who will be affected by the policy should enable you to make this decision and whether you need to continue with the EqIA.

Please tick the appropriate option:

An EqIA is required (please continue to Part 4 of this document)	X
An EqIA is not required (please complete the box below)	

This policy, strategy, project or service does not require an EqIA because:

n/a

Name: Jane Williams
Date: 24 April 2021

Job Title: Team Leader Environmental Protection

Please send a copy of this document to [Diversity & Inclusion Officer](#)

Next Steps:

- The EqIA will be reviewed by Business Intelligence & Communications and if in agreement, your EqIA will be signed off.
- If not, we will get in touch to chat further about the EqIA, to get a better understanding.

Part 4: Analysing the impact

Who does the service, strategy, policy, project or change impact?

- If your strategy, policy, project or service contains options you may wish to consider providing an assessment for each option. Please cut and paste the template accordingly.

For each protected characteristic please choose from the following options:

- Please note in some cases more than one impact may apply – in this case please state all relevant options and explain in the ‘Please provide details’ box.

Positive Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the proposal eliminates discrimination, advances equality of opportunity and/or fosters good relations with protected groups.
Negative Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected characteristic group(s) could be disadvantaged or discriminated against
Neutral Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change/ no assessed significant impact of protected characteristic groups
Unclear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough data/evidence has been collected to make an informed decision.

Age:	Negative and Positive Impact
What age bracket does this affect?	Older people with reduced mobility and dexterity All ages
Please provide details:	Negative: Inability to remove dog fouling. Reduced ability to restrain a dog on lead.

	<p>Having to travel further to exercise their dog on foot or by vehicle. Difficulty with access on to land where exercise can be undertaken.</p> <p>Positive:</p> <p>People (in particular under 5) will have less potential to be harmed by un-cleared faeces or distressed by coming into contact with it.</p> <p>Accidental trips from uncontrolled dogs may be reduced</p>
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Disability: (including physical, mental, sensory and progressive conditions)	Negative and Positive Impact
Does this affect a specific disability group?	Those with physical disabilities & mental impairment.
Please provide details:	<p>Negative:</p> <p>Inability to remove dog fouling (physical impairment). Having to travel further to exercise their dog. Reduced ability to restrain a dog on lead. Ability to know about the restrictions (sensory and cognitive impairment). Reduced ability to communicate (i.e. hearing impairment, speech impairment). Ability to understand the restrictions (mental impairment). Difficulty with access on to land where exercise can be undertaken (mobility impairment), this may be due to steps, rough or soft ground, camber or gradient.</p> <p>Positive:</p> <p>The PSPO exempts assistance dogs in certain circumstances Prevents working assistance dogs from being distracted by other dogs wishing to interact.</p>

Gender Reassignment & Gender Identity:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	Not anticipated at this stage that there are any impacts on this group.

Pregnancy and maternity:	Unclear Impact
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Please provide details:	Any heavily pregnant individuals may be less able to remove dog fouling and to travel further to exercise their dogs.
Race and Ethnicity:	Negative Impact
Please provide details:	Understanding of written English used on signage to mitigate this Dorset Council uses symbols and translation software can be put on mobile telephones Understanding Animal Welfare & Dog Control Officers or authorised officers (Enforcement Officers) in conversation. Where a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) is served, understanding the content of such a penalty.
Religion or belief:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	Not anticipated at this stage that there are any impacts on this group.
Sexual orientation:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	Not anticipated at this stage that there are any impacts on this group.
Sex (consider both men and women):	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	Not anticipated at this stage that there are any impacts on this group.
Marriage or civil partnership:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	Not anticipated at this stage that there are any impacts on this group.
Carers:	Positive impact
Please provide details:	With the controls in place in some public open spaces the caring of an individual may be made easier.
Rural isolation:	Neutral
Please provide details:	Likely that in rural areas there will be more places to exercise dogs and this can be a social activity.
Single parent families:	Neutral
Please provide details:	Not anticipated at this stage that there are any impacts on this group.

Social & economic deprivation:	Unclear
Please provide details:	No access to private transport may restrict the ability to travel further to exercise a dog. Ability to meet needs of dog (veterinary requirements and vaccinations) Ability to provide a suitable lead

Armed Forces communities	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	Not anticipated at this stage that there are any impacts on this group.

Part 5: Action Plan

Provide actions for **positive**, **negative** and **unclear** impacts.

If you have identified any **negative** or **unclear** impacts, describe what adjustments will be made to remove or reduce the impacts, or if this is not possible provide justification for continuing with the proposal.

Issue	Action to be taken	Person(s) responsible	Date to be completed by
Dog owner due to age/mobility/latter stages of pregnancy is unable to clear fouling or comply with any other restriction	<p>Officers receive training about this aspect of enforcement.</p> <p>A FPN can be appealed and information submitted about mitigating circumstances. Appeals are determined by the service manager.</p> <p>A letter can be provided for the dog owner to carry to present if approached again by an officer.</p> <p>The FPN procedure will be reviewed to ensure that the above provisions are suitably clear.</p>	Jane Williams	December 2020
Dog owner has sensory or mobility disabilities	The Order will exempt people with certain characteristics from complying with relevant restrictions.	Jane Williams	At the time the Order is made – suggested wording attached as Appendix D
Dog owner has un-liveried assistance dog and is unable to clear fouling or comply	<p>Officers receive training about this aspect of enforcement.</p> <p>A FPN can be appealed and information submitted about mitigating circumstances. Appeals are determined by the service manager.</p>	Jane Williams	December 2020

with any other restriction	<p>A letter can be provided for the dog owner to carry to present if approached again by an officer.</p> <p>Dog owner will be supported in gaining appropriate livery for their dog.</p> <p>The FPN procedure will be reviewed to ensure that the above provisions are suitably clear.</p>		
Dog owner has a liveried assistance dog and is unable to clear fouling or comply with any other restriction	<p>The dog owner will not be challenged by the authorised officer other than to offer assistance.</p> <p>The FPN procedure will be reviewed to ensure that the above provisions are suitably clear.</p>	Jane Williams	December 2020
Dog owner with limited understanding of written English	<p>Review to provide clear unambiguous signage, suitably located and in adequate numbers using internationally recognised symbols. Simple clear font of a suitable and appropriate size will be used.</p> <p>Provision of information on website and leaflets which are easy to understand. Website also has Read Speak facility.</p>	Jane Williams	April 2021
Dog Owner with limited understanding of English (where English may not be their first language)	<p>Authorised Officers that carry work owned mobile phones will be asked to obtain the speak and translate style app for use in such circumstances</p>	Jane Williams	December 2020

Achieving consistent enforcement	<p>Ensure all officers involved in enforcement activities are familiar with requirements of the PSPO. That they are confident and suitably trained in dealing with vulnerable people and/or those with disabilities and understand when discretion should be applied in order to achieve fair and consistent outcomes</p> <p>Regular training of all authorised officers including equalities (last training February 2020).</p>	Jane Williams	On-going
Use of bins, their location, height and emptying	<p>Dorset Council litter bins are signed to advise they can be used for the disposal of wrapped dog fouling. Signage will be checked as part of implementing the PSPO</p> <p>The PSPO requirement is that the fouling should be cleared and adequately disposed of. This can include taking home and disposing of in the household waste stream.</p> <p>The provision of bins for dog fouling only is undertaken by some Parish and Town Councils under separate emptying and disposal arrangements.</p> <p>Information about the disposal of dog fouling is provided on the council's website.</p>	Dorset Waste, Parish and Town Councils	On-going
Inability to exercise dog in locality due to PSPO restrictions. May be exacerbated by reduced mobility; lack of transport etc.	Meeting a dogs welfare needs includes providing the necessary amount of exercise each day, which in many cases will require dogs to be let off the lead whilst still under control. However, on-lead exercise and home play are as equally important, both of which have been used to significantly during the Covid-19 lockdown period.	Jane Williams	On-going

	<p>A dog can be walked under control on any pathway, footpath etc. in order to provide exercise.</p> <p>Proposed exclusion areas are only in locations where public safety is required due to the number of people who may be present and due to public health considerations e.g. beaches/play areas/sports pitches.</p> <p>Most of these excluded areas have nearby options for off-lead exercise.</p> <p>Any locations where issues do become apparent will be reviewed when the next PSPO consultation takes place (maximum 3 years</p>		
<p>Receipt of a number of emailed concerns on accessibility to Front Town Beach, Lyme Regis during winter months by Dog Owners with mobility issues and the lack of alternative locations for off lead exercise.</p>	<p>Officer to undertake a review of Lyme Regis beaches and surrounding area for accessible locations.</p> <p>Attached is Appendix E – a report on the beaches of Lyme Regis and some alternative nearby locations for exercising a dog off lead. Dependent on the nature of mobility, and tide, some options will suit better than others.</p> <p>Many of the emails were also concerned about the inability to obtain mental wellbeing. The dog owner will still have the ability to receive mental wellbeing by</p>	Jane Williams	November 2020

walking in the location whilst the dog will be stimulated by sights, sounds and odours, even if on a lead.

Front Town beach still remains open to all dog owners (and other users) albeit dogs must be kept on lead.

Assistance dog owners are likely to have their dog on lead to aid transition on the beach slopes and changes in path way height.

EqIA Sign Off

Officer completing this EqIA:	Jane Williams	Date:	17/11/2020
Equality Lead:	Susan Ward-Rice	Date:	20/11/2020
Equality & Diversity Action Group Chair:	Pete Bartlett	Date:	20/11/2020

Census data – Dorset Council area

Population figures

	Dorset Council area	
		%
All males	184,100	48.9
All females	192,380	51.1
0-15 years	59,930	15.9
16-64 years	208,740	55.4
65+ years	107,810	28.6
	376,480	

Source: 2011 Census, Office for national Statistics

Diversity

95.6% White British
 4.4% BME
 1.7% main language not English

Source: 2011 Census, Office for national Statistics

Disability

4.6% of the population based on those claiming Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payments or Attendance Allowance in the Dorset Council area.

Additionally:

Long term health problem or disability	Total	%
Day-to-day activities limited a lot	6315	9.69
Day-to-day activities limited a little	7786	11.95
Day-to-day activities not limited	51066	78.36

	Total	%
Very good health	27,562	42.29
Good health	23,933	36.73
Fair health	9,802	15.04
Bad health	2,952	4.53
Very bad health	918	1.40

Source: 2011 Census, Office for national Statistics

Kennel Club Consultation response



Kennel Club response to Dorset Council Public Spaces Protection Order consultation

Submitted on 13th September 2019 by: The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB, tel: 020 7518 1020, email: kcdog@thekennelclub.org.uk

The Kennel Club is the largest organisation in the UK devoted to dog health, welfare and training, whose main objective is to ensure that dogs live healthy, happy lives with responsible owners. As part of its External Affairs activities, the Kennel Club runs KC Dog, which was established to monitor and keep dog owners up to date about dog related issues, including Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) being introduced across the country.

As a general principle, we would like to highlight the importance of all PSPOs to be necessary and proportionate responses to problems caused by dogs and irresponsible owners. It is also important that authorities balance the interests of dog owners with the interests of other access users.

Dog fouling

The Kennel Club strongly promotes responsible dog ownership and believes that dog owners should always pick up after their dogs wherever they are, including fields and woods in the wider countryside, and especially where farm animals graze to reduce the risk of passing *Neospora* and *Sarcocystosis* to cattle and sheep respectively. The exception to this is when there is a clear indication from the landowner to the contrary. Therefore we welcome the wording of the proposed PSPO which provides for landowner/occupier discretion.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the local authority to employ further proactive measures to help promote responsible dog ownership throughout the local area in addition to introducing Orders in this respect.

These proactive measures can include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog poo can be disposed of in normal litter bins; running responsible ownership and training events, or using poster campaigns to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dog.

Dog Access

The Kennel Club does not normally oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds, or enclosed recreational facilities such as tennis courts or skate parks, as long as alternative provisions are made for dog walkers in the vicinity. We would also point out that children and dogs should be able to socialise together quite safely under adult supervision, and that having a child in the home is the biggest predictor for a family owning a dog.

The Kennel Club can support reasonable “dogs on lead” orders, which can - when used in a proportionate and evidenced-based way – include areas such as cemeteries, picnic areas, or on pavements in proximity to cars and other road traffic.

However, we will oppose PSPOs which introduce blanket restrictions on dog walkers accessing public open spaces without specific and reasonable justification. Dog owners are required to provide their dogs with appropriate daily exercise, including “regular opportunities to walk and run”, which in most cases will be off lead while still under control.

Their ability to meet this requirement is greatly affected by the amount of publicly accessible parks and other public places in their area where dogs can exercise without restrictions. This section of the Animal Welfare Act was included in the statutory guidance produced for local authorities by the Home Office on the use of PSPOs.

Accordingly, the underlying principle we seek to see applied is that dog controls should be the least restrictive to achieve a given defined and measurable outcome; this is the approach used by Natural England. In many cases, a seasonal or time of day restriction will be effective and the least restrictive approach, rather than a blanket year-round restriction. For instance, a “dogs on lead” order for a picnic area is unlikely to be necessary in mid-winter.

The Government provided clear instructions to local authorities that they must provide restriction free sites for dog walkers to exercise their dogs. This message was contained in the guidance document for DCOs, and has been retained in both the Defra/Welsh Government and Home Office PSPO guidance documents, with the Defra guidance for PSPOs stating ‘local authorities should ensure there are suitable alternatives for dogs to be exercised without restrictions’.

With regards to playing fields, we ask local authorities to consider whether or not access restrictions are absolutely necessary. If they are deemed to be needed, whether time/season limited restrictions would be more appropriate than a continuous exclusion order. We are aware in many areas, dog walkers do allow their dogs to exercise on playing fields when they are not in use.

Of course, we understand the safety reasons behind a restriction while in use. It is also worth noting that compliance with such an order can be difficult for a dog walker if there are no boundaries around the playing field as when exercising their dogs off lead, dogs will not recognise the difference between playing fields and other grassed areas.

In Schedule 2: Exclusion of dogs in West Dorset, North Dorset and Weymouth PSPOs, we have a concern about the wording of the order. *“All land within the administrative area of the council which comprises of... any other fenced (and/or hedged and/or walled) park, sporting or recreational facility signed at its entrance(s) as a ‘dog exclusion area’ (where the sign uses those particular words or uses words and/or symbols having a like effect)”*. This would suggest that any enclosed park with an appropriate sign could become an exclusion area at any point after the order was made, even if it has not been outlined in a consultation. It also does not indicate whether the signage needs to be provided by Dorset Council. We would be concerned that a parish council may read this and interpret it as them having the authority to designate a park as dog exclusion, if it is enclosed and they put up signage.

Seasonal Exclusions

Where a seasonal restriction has been proposed we would ask the council to consider whether a time restriction would be an appropriate addition. We have received feedback and evidence that many beaches are empty in the early mornings and late evenings, a key time for many dog owners to exercise their dogs. Beaches can be an important local resource for owners to make sure their dogs get the required daily off lead exercise and we see no reason why it should be restricted at times of the day when it is little used, even in the high season.

With regard to the proposed dog exclusion orders on Weymouth beach, the Kennel Club believes that the dates should be 1st May – 30th September, as with the West Dorset PSPO. This coincides with the current bathing season of 15th May to 30th September. We oppose restrictions that commence on Good Friday (or dates linked to Easter) and continue to a set date in the autumn. Over the next three years, Easter varies by up to 17 days.

Taking the example of the proposed Weymouth Beach restriction from Good Friday to 31st October, walking your dog would be perfectly legal on the beach before 10th April 2020 but would be an illegal activity, with a potential £1,000 fine, on the same date the following year.

We are not aware of any evidence that the Easter break is an annual trigger for ongoing anti-social behaviour, which calls into question the need for restrictions to run from Easter to a set date in the autumn. We would question whether such a range in start dates for a PSPO meets the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act's defined legal test.

If there is evidence of a spike in detrimental activity over the Easter weekend due to an increased usage of recreation spots, then a restriction for the busy Easter period would be justified. A separate restriction could then be introduced to address the busier summer months.

Dogs on lead by direction

The Kennel Club strongly welcomes 'dogs on lead by direction' orders, as these allow responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs off lead without restriction providing their dogs are under control, whilst allowing the local authority powers to restrict dogs not under control.

We would recommend that the authorised officer enforcing the order is familiar with dog behaviour in order to determine whether restraint is necessary. There is a danger that, through no fault of its own, a dog could be a 'nuisance' or 'annoyance' to another person who simply does not like dogs.

We would also recommend local authorities make use of the other more flexible and targeted measures at their disposal such as Acceptable Behavioural Contracts and Community Protection Notices. Kennel Club Good Citizen Training Clubs and our accredited trainers can also help those people whose dogs run out of control due to them not having the ability to train a reliable recall.

Registered Assistance Dogs

We would strongly suggest you use the exemptions outlined in the North Dorset PSPO for all four extensions, with the suggested amendments. We welcome the reference to Assistance Dogs UK and the inclusion of all registered charities, however, it is important to note it does not provide for owner trained assistance dogs. We would therefore encourage the Council to allow some flexibility when considering whether a disabled person's dog is acting as an assistance dog and recognise that many disabled people enjoy the company of a pet dog (i.e. not acting as an assistance dog).

We would urge the Council to review the Equality and Human Rights Commission guidance for businesses and service providers –

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/assistance-dogs-a-guide-for-all-businesses.pdf>. The Council could consider adopting the definitions of assistance dogs as used by Mole Valley District Council which can be found on page 4 of this document - https://www.molevalley.gov.uk/media/pdf/1/b/83072_-_Completed_PSPO.pdf

Appropriate signage

It is important to note that in relation to PSPOs the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014 make it a legal requirement for local authorities to –

“cause to be erected on or adjacent to the public place to which the order relates such notice (or notices) as it considers sufficient to draw the attention of any member of the public using that place to –

- (i) the fact that the order has been made, extended or varied (as the case may be); and
- (ii) the effect of that order being made, extended or varied (as the case may be).”

With relation to dog access restrictions such as a “Dogs on Leads Order”, on-site signage should make clear where such restrictions start and finish. This can often be achieved by signs that on one side say, for example, “You are entering [type of area]” and “You are leaving [type of area]” on the reverse of the sign.

While all dog walkers should be aware of the requirement to pick up after their dog, signage should be erected for the PSPO to be compliant with the legislation

Dorset Council Dog-related Public Space Protection Order

Appendix D

Definition to be used in the PSPO's with regard to disability and assistance dogs.

- A. This Order shall NOT apply with regard to **disposal of faeces** where a person;
- a) is registered as a blind person and uses a dog trained by a member of Assistance Dogs UK or any other UK registered charity whose activities include the training of assistance dogs and upon which they rely for assistance; or
 - b) has a physical or mental disability which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, in respect of a dog trained by a member of Assistance Dogs UK or any other registered charity whose activities include the training of assistance dogs and upon which they rely for assistance; or
 - c) has a physical or mental disability which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities in respect of a dog upon which they rely for assistance in connection with their disability; or
[Evidence of the nature of the assistance dog may be requested by an authorised officer]
 - d) who has a physical or mental disability which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities and on the basis of appropriate medical certification produced to the Council, cannot collect faeces from where it is deposited.
[i.e. a FPN may be served but written mitigation may be supplied for consideration to seek it's withdrawal]
- B. This Order shall NOT apply with regard to complying to a **direction by an authorised officer to put their dog on a lead**, where a person
- a) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which they rely for assistance.
- C. This Order shall NOT apply with regard to complying **with exclusion of dogs from identified land**, where a person
- a) is registered as a blind person and uses a dog trained by a member of Assistance Dogs UK or any other UK registered charity whose activities include the training of assistance dogs upon which they rely for assistance; or
 - b) has a physical or mental disability which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, in respect of a dog trained by a member of Assistance Dogs UK or any other UK registered charity whose activities include the training of assistance dogs and upon which they rely for assistance.

Definitions:

'working', in the context of this Order, means the dog is operating in its capacity as an accredited assistance dog. This would normally be 'on lead' or in a harness. The operator is likely to carry an ID book related to the dogs working capacity and notification of the training organisation. This should be presented to the authorised officer on request or be able to be presented at a later date.

'liveried' means that the dog is wearing an instantly recognisable harness or identifying coat as being associated with its function as an accredited assistance dog.

Please note that the numbering may appear different in the actual PSPO Order documentation.

Review of the impact of Dogs on Leads, Front Town Beach, Lyme Regis

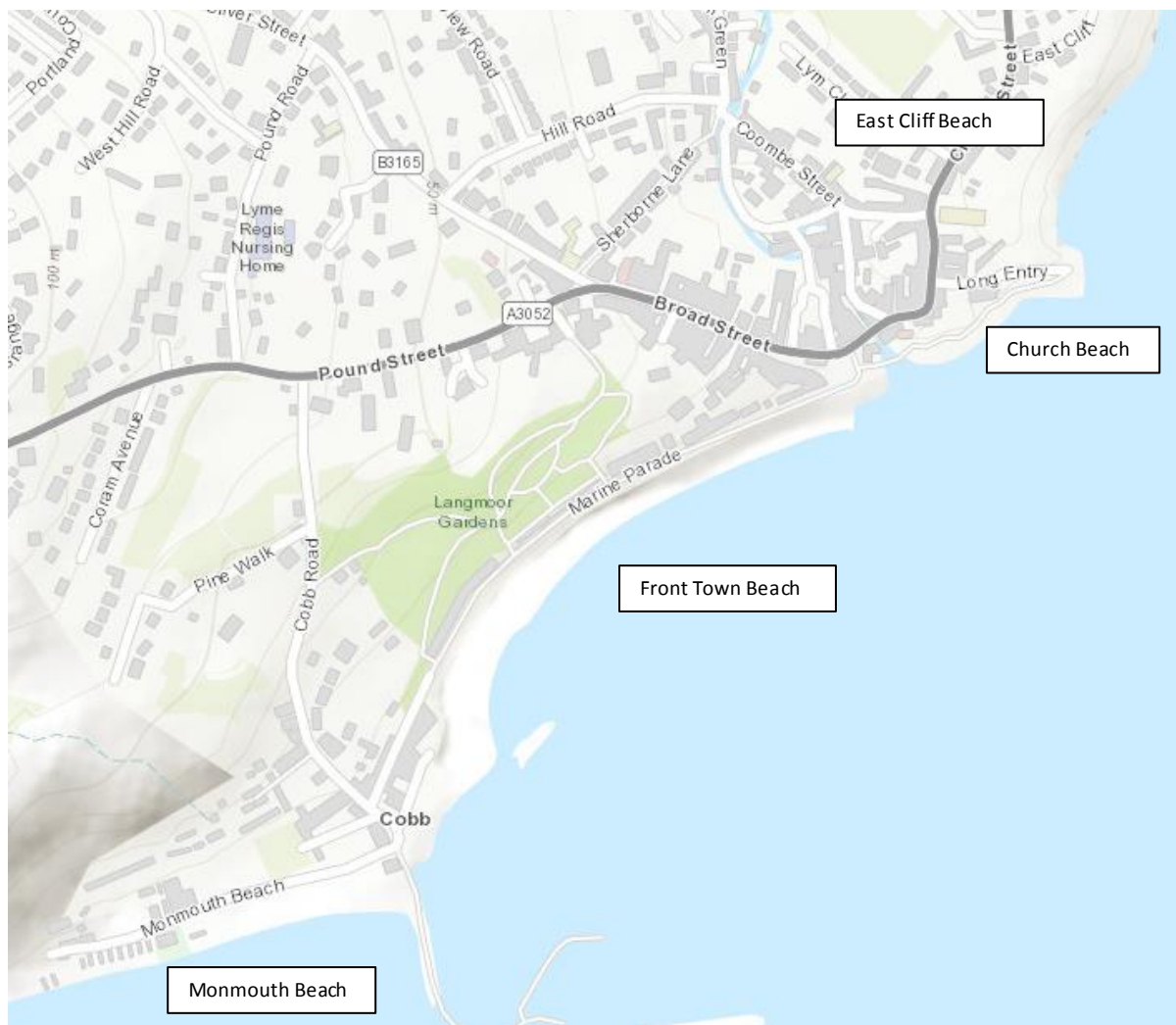


Figure 1 – Map of Lyme Regis showing beaches at high tide

Above shows a map of Lyme Regis beaches when the tide is high. This means that Monmouth Beach and Front Town Beach are the only beaches that are exposed in this period and that these beaches are not ‘cleansed’ by the tide.

Front Town Beach

Front town beach is approx. one third sand close to the harbour and 2 thirds large cobble. The beach profile is undulating with 2 major tiers. When at the water’s edge at low tide you cannot view the upper tier, and there is some difficulty in viewing the mid one, particularly if the dog is small. This makes it difficult for any dog off lead to be seen when fouling or causing a problem to other beach/hut users, and prevents dog owners from having appropriate control over their dog(s). Additionally distractions of additional dogs, conversation, mobile devices etc. can prevent appropriate control when it is necessary to do so.

This beach at high tide remains exposed for use by visitors and residents. The beach has a single step from Marine Parade/Cart Road at the beach or a ramp to access, so those with assistance dogs can continue to use this area. It is recommended that they are clearly liveried to prevent being approached and receiving undue remarks.

Between 1st May – 30th Sept dogs are excluded from this area except assistance dogs. From 1st October – 31st April all dogs must be kept on a lead.

Church Beach

Figure 2 shows the (level) access route from Cob Gate car park leading east. This car park has 4 disability spaces and toilets can be found across the road from the car park. The beach shown is Church Beach at low tide. This is a sandy cove, with little to no cobble, and is accessed by 2 sets of 10-12 relatively wide steps, and has a hand rail. The beach is sheltered by a stone groyne and has adjacent rock armour. The beach once on it can provide relatively sure footing. This may be suitable for dog exercise for those with poor mobility but not to those that have severe mobility issues due to the stair-ed access.



Figure 2 - from Cob Gate car park looking towards Church Beach showing the beach exposed at lower tide.

A very small beach may be exposed on high tide dependent on the state of the tide.

There are no restrictions on this beach except to collect and appropriate dispose of dog faeces some exemptions apply in the Order.

East Cliff beach

Figure 3 is East Cliff Beach at almost low tide and the exposed beach area, at the lowest tides the ledges are exposed. This beach will be exposed for approx. 2-3 hours and then recede as the tide comes in for the same period of time. This occurs during a 13 hour cycle, and will give a period of up to 5-6 hours dependent on the tide state, weather etc. The overall daily beach exposure may be more if 2 tides occur in the same 24 hours. In the summer this may give the opportunity for dog walking in the area for a longer period due to longer areas of daylight. Any one intending to use this beach is advised to be aware of tide state and understand the tide times as venturing too far from exit routes may lead to being cut off.



Figure 3 - East Cliff beach 1 hour before low tide showing the sloping access and the sea wall above. Stepped access can be seen a protrusion from the sea wall mid picture.

Access to this beach is either by ramp or steps. The ramp sweeps along the rear of the beach area (it being the last to be covered by the tide). As can be seen, there is a hand rail. Due to the nature of beaches and that this ramp is covered by the sea, each tide, there is also the possibility for seaweed and other detritus to appear on the ramp. This may cause the surface to become slippery and care should be taken. Stairs can be found further along the sea wall and again has a hand rail. Access for

those with severe mobility is not recommended. Mobility vehicles are unlikely to be able to traverse the ramp due to its incline.

There are no restrictions on this beach except to collect and appropriate dispose of dog faeces some exemptions apply in the Order



Figure 4 -Monmouth Beach 1 hour before low tide

Monmouth Beach

Monmouth beach is shown in figure 4 at low tide. The beach has 2 tiers of cobbles with the lower tier, exposed at low tide that has some sand. The beach is elongated and has car parking to the rear of it. Disabled car parking and toilets (key) are readily available. Access to this beach is between the 2 boat-parks via tarmac, or between beach huts, which are to the rear of the beach, and is without steps or ramps. Additional access could be sought from the harbour wall but this would require taking a small number of steps to get over the structure.

There are no restrictions on this beach except to collect and appropriate dispose of dog faeces some exemptions apply in the Order.

Other near off-lead options:

River Lym Walk, Lyme Regis, from Town Mill to The Glenn, Uplyme, wide path or a narrow road, slight inclines but no steps or steep access points, mainly on the level following the route of the river. Parts are closed to vehicular traffic enabling off lead or making long leash acceptable. Benches are provide along the route as rest stops. Mobility chairs/vehicles are likely to be able to take this route.

Pine Walk (off Holme Bush car park), Lyme Regis, road access for approx.100 m and then a woodland path on to National Trust land. Open

fields and walking area leading on to the Coast path etc. Undulating under foot, some slopes. Signage on the walk indicates 'dog friendly'.

Timber Hill, Lyme Regis – overlooking bay. Said to be moderate walking but is unlikely to be accessible for those with severe mobility issues.

Stonebarrow, Charmouth, land owned by National Trust, various routes some noted as 'easy', and dog friendly on their website. A 1.7km round route takes approx.40-60 mins.

Adjacent beaches (NB working assistance dogs are able to access dog exclusions areas):

SEATON, Devon – all year round dog exercise area available, restrictions in the summer months apply currently between 1st May and 30th Sept.

CHARMOUTH, Dorset – small identified area where dogs are excluded in front of the shop and café, between 1st May – 30th Sept, Dog on leads in the associated car parks and around the café and shop. The remaining beaches are available for off lead exercise.

Seaton beach, CHIDEOCK, Dorset – exclusion applies between 1st May and 30th September.

EYPE, Dorset - No restrictions.

Jane Williams

30 October 2020

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

The Dorset Council Dog Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2020

Dorset Council ("the Council") hereby makes the following Order:

This Order shall be known as The Dorset Council Dog Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2020 and shall come into force on 1st January 2021 for a period of three years.

When in force this Order supersedes the following:

- The Dogs Exclusion (East Dorset) Order 2010 as extended (became provision of a Public Spaces Protection Order from 20 October 2017).
- The Fouling of Land by Dogs (East Dorset) Order 2010, as extended (became provision of a Public Spaces Protection Order from 20 October 2017).
- The Purbeck District Council (Dogs - Designation of Land in Purbeck) Order 2003 (became provision of a Public Spaces Protection Order from 20 October 2017)
- The North Dorset Dog Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2019
- The West Dorset Dog Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2017, as extended
- The Weymouth and Portland Dog Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2016, as extended

And for the duration of this Order the following byelaws will be of no effect in relation to the restricted area:

- The Lychett Matravers byelaw for the exclusion of dogs 1992
- The Lychett Matravers byelaw related to Upton recreation Ground 1990
- The Purbeck District Council byelaw related to dogs on the beach and dogs on leads 1989 (Studland and Swanage)

This Order has 6 sections and should be read in conjunction with the related Schedules.

Contents

1. General provisions
2. Removal and disposal of dog faeces
3. Dogs to be excluded from identified areas
4. Dogs to be kept on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer
5. Dogs to be kept on lead in identified areas
6. Penalty

- Schedule 1 – General land provision
- Schedule 2 – Exclusion of dogs
- Schedule 3 – Dogs to be kept on leads

Section 1 - General provisions

- 1.1 Where specified in this Order 'the Council' means the Dorset Council
- 1.2 A person who habitually has a dog in their possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.
- 1.3 This Order shall NOT apply with regard to **disposal of faeces** where a person in charge of a dog;
- 1.3.1 is registered as a blind person and uses a dog trained by a member of Assistance Dogs UK or any other UK registered charity whose activities include the training of assistance dogs and upon which they rely for assistance; or
- 1.3.2 has a physical or mental disability which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities in respect of a dog trained by a member of Assistance Dogs UK or any other UK registered charity whose activities include the training of assistance dogs and upon which they rely for assistance; or
- 1.3.3 has a physical or mental disability which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities in respect of a dog upon which they rely for assistance in connection with their disability; or
- 1.3.4 has a physical or mental disability which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities such that they are unable to collect faeces from where it is deposited.
- 1.4 This Order shall NOT apply with regard to complying with a **direction by an authorised officer to put their dog on a lead**, where a person in charge of a dog
- 1.4.1 is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 23358) and upon which they rely for assistance.
- 1.5 This Order shall NOT apply with regard to complying **with exclusion of dogs from identified land**, where a person in charge of a dog
- 1.5.1 is registered as a blind person and uses a dog trained by a member of Assistance Dogs UK or any other UK registered charity whose activities include the training of assistance dogs, and upon which they rely for assistance; or
- 1.5.2 has a physical or mental disability which has a substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities, in respect of a dog trained by a member of Assistance Dogs UK or any other UK registered charity whose activities include the training of assistance dogs and upon which they rely for assistance.
- 1.6 In this Order the following definitions apply:

'an authorised person' means a person authorised for the purpose of this Order by the Council, including the purpose of giving directions under section 4 of this Order.

'road' is all public highways having a right of passage for motor vehicles (which includes areas of pavement, footway and verge set aside for pedestrians within such a highway), with 'motor vehicle' being as defined in section 185(1) of the Road

Traffic Act 1988 and section 136 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as 'a mechanically propelled vehicle, intended or adapted for use on roads'.

Section 2 - Removal and disposal of dog faeces

2.1 This Section applies to the land specified in Schedule 1.

2.2 If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this Order applies and a person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless

2.2.1 They have reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or

2.2.2 The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to this failing to do so.

2.3 For the purposes of this Section –

2.3.1 Placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be sufficient removal from the land

2.3.1.1 Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for, or suitable means of removing it, shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces.

Section 3 - Dogs to be excluded from identified areas

3.2 This Section applies to the land specified and at the times specified in Schedule 2.

3.3 A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, during the periods specified in Schedule 2, they take the dog onto, or permit the dog to enter or to remain on, any land to which this section applies unless –

3.3.1 They have a reasonable excuse to do so; or

3.3.2 The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to the dog entering or remaining on such land.

Section 4 - Dogs to be kept on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised person

4.1 This section applies to land specified in Schedule 1.

4.2 A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, on any land to which this Order applies, they do not comply with a direction given by an authorised person to put and keep the dog on a lead of not more than 2 metres (6 foot, 6 inches) in length unless –

- 4.2.1 They have reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
 - 4.2.2 the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to this failing to do so.
- 4.3 An authorised person may give a direction to put and keep a dog on a lead if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or disturbance to any other person (on land to which this section applies) or the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird.
- 4.4 The dog's lead shall not exceed 2 metres (6 foot, 6 inches) in length from handle to dog collar.

Section 5 - Dogs to be kept on lead in identified areas

- 5.1 This Section applies to the land specified and at the times specified in Schedule 3
- 5.2. A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, during the periods specified in Schedule 3, on any land to which this Section applies he does not keep the dog on a lead unless –
- 5.2.1. He has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
 - 5.2.2. the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to this failing to do so.
- 5.3. The dog's lead shall not exceed 2 metres (6 foot, 6 inches) in length from handle to dog collar.

Section 6 – Penalty

- 6.1 A person who fails to comply with this Order without reasonable excuse is guilty of an offence under Section 67 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
- 6.2 In accordance with Section 68 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, an authorised person may issue a fixed penalty notice to anyone they have reason to believe has committed an offence under this Order. Such notice offers the person to whom it is issued the opportunity to discharge their liability to conviction for the offence by payment of a fixed penalty. The penalty is set at £100.00 to be paid within 28 days but is reduced to £75.00 if paid within 14 days.

Date: 23 October 2020

THE COMMON SEAL OF DORSET
COUNCIL

Was hereto affixed in the presence of:-



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'H. Howard', written over a horizontal line.

Authorised Officer



SCHEDULE 1 – General land provision

Land to which removal and disposal of dog faeces applies (Section 2), and dogs on lead by direction by an authorised officer (Section 4):

1. Subject to the exception in Paragraph 2 below, all land which is in the administrative area of the Council and
 - (i) which is open to the air (which includes land that is covered but open to the air on at least one side) and
 - (ii) to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment).
2. Excepted from the description in Paragraph 1 above is land that is placed at the disposal of the Forestry Commissioners under Section 39(1) of the Forestry Act 1967.

SCHEDULE 2 - Exclusion of dogs

Land to which dogs are excluded at all times unless otherwise specified;

1. All land within the administrative area of the Council which comprises any fenced (and/or hedged and /or walled) children's play area, children's pool and/or sandpit, skateboard park, tennis court, basketball court, bowling green or putting green or any other fenced (and/or hedged and /or walled) park, with a marked sporting or recreational facility signed at its entrance(s) as 'No Dogs' (where the sign uses those particular words or uses words and/or symbols having a like effect); and
2. All marked sports pitch playing surfaces or athletics tracks within the administrative area of the Council. – see also Schedule 3 for perimeter control; and
3. Between 1st May and 30th September the following beaches (maps for each are attached and these restrictions are marked in red):
 - a. Front Beach, Swanage (map 1); and
 - b. West Beach, Charmouth (map 2); and
 - c. Front (Town) Beach, Lyme Regis (map 3); and
 - d. East & West Beach, West Bay (map 4); and
 - e. Seatown Beach, Chideock (map 5); and

- f. Weymouth Central Beach extending from the northern boundary of the designated Dog Exercise Area at the Pavilion end to the groyne at Greenhill and including Greenhill Beaches, Weymouth, (map 6).

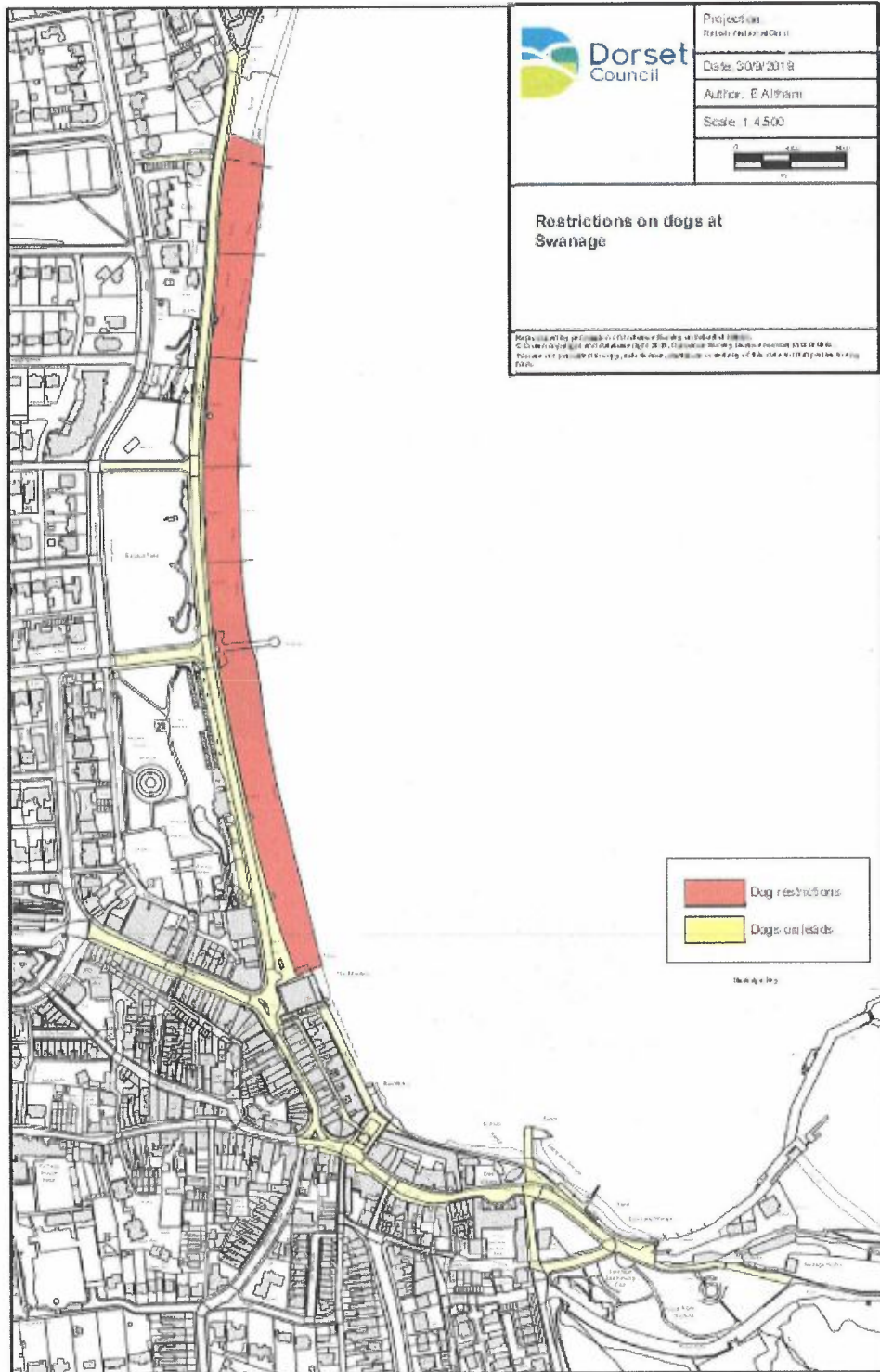
SCHEDULE 3 – Dogs to be kept on lead – land and times

Land on which dogs shall be kept on a lead at all times unless otherwise specified;

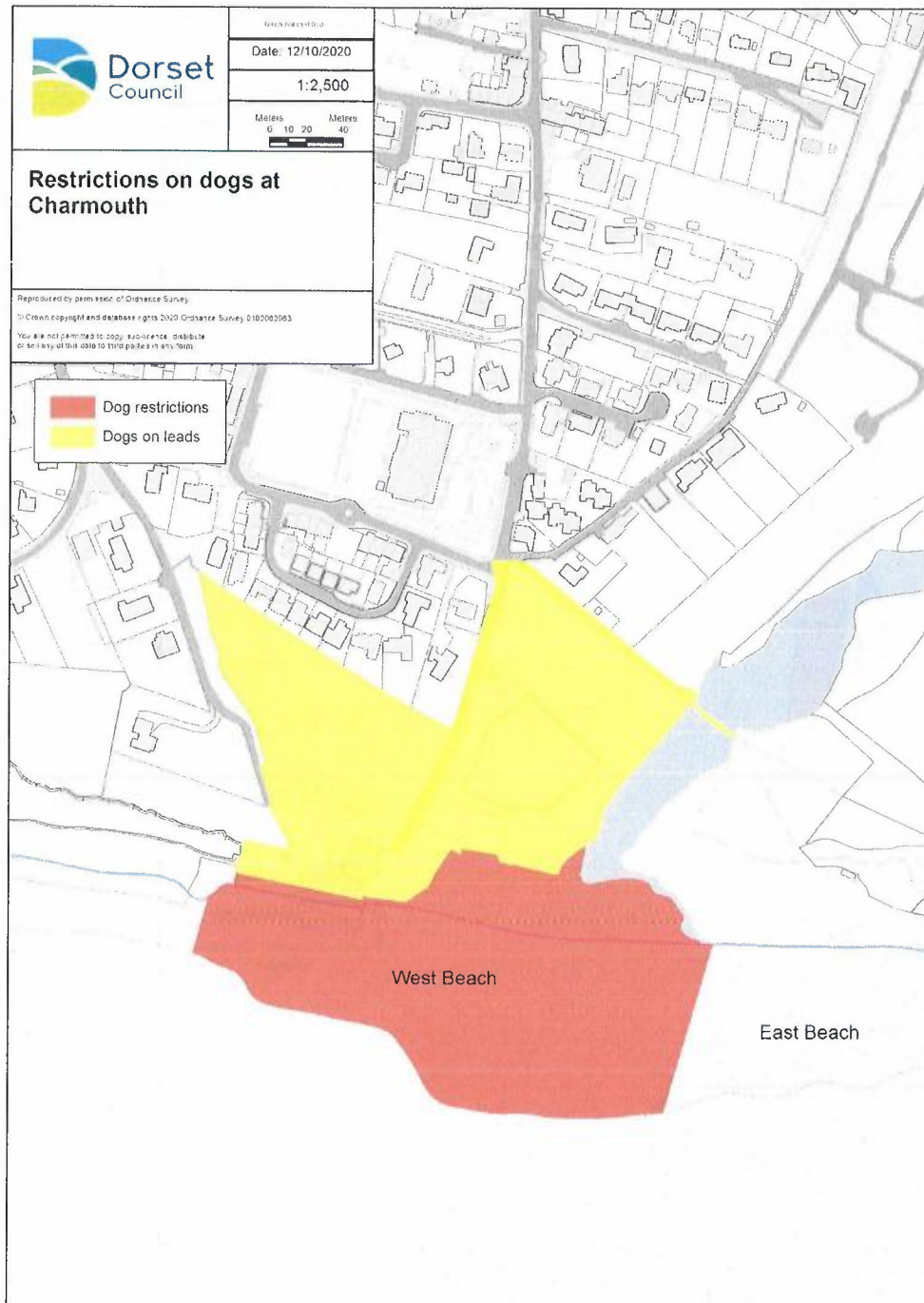
1. Municipal Cemeteries, churchyards and graveyards; and
2. Council owned Allotments where dogs are permitted;
3. Formal Public Gardens where dogs are permitted (a map is provided for Nothe Gardens, Map 9); and
4. Within 5 metres of the marked perimeter of sports pitch playing surfaces and athletics tracks; and
5. Council owned car parks; and
6. On the Rodwell Trail, Weymouth; and
7. On the roads and walkways close to the beaches namely (and shown as yellow on the enclosed maps):
 - a. At Charmouth, Lower Sea Lane from the car park access, including the 3 car parks off Lower Sea Lane close to the beach, the footpath leading to the beach including the bridge and paths adjacent to the heritage centre (Map 2); and
 - b. At West Bay on the Esplanade, Quay, Quayside, road, pavements, grassed area and paved island in front of the George Hotel, slipway piers, the car parks and main Pier (Map 4); and
 - c. At Lyme Regis on the Marine Parade, Cart Road, Bell Cliff, the harbour, slipway and sea walls, the entrance to Cobb Road, Ozone Terrace, the entrance to the public car park and boat park, and the harbour wall, Cobb Gate car park and the esplanade extending from it eastwards up to its junction with Long Entry and known as Gunn Cliff Walk, to extend along the sea wall above Church Beach, and up to the Charmouth Road car park via the provided steps (Map 3); and
 - d. At Swanage, The Parade, and associated roads leading to The Parade and the beach, (Map 1); and
 - e. At Studland, access to South Beach (also known as Knoll beach and Middle beach) from the car park, including the car park and staircases leading on to the beach, (Map 7) and
 - f. At Weymouth, The Promenade from the Pleasure Pier to Bowleaze, Weymouth (Map 6, highlighted in yellow), extending when the road

- is pedestrianised and including the path on the opposite side of the road for the duration of road closure; and
- g. Ferry Road, from Studland beach car park to the South Coast Path End Marker, Shell Beach National Trust Car Park and all access routes Shell beach (Map 8).
8. Studland beaches also known as Knoll Beach and Middle Beach from the 1st May to 30th September; and
 9. Between 1st October and 30th April the following beaches (maps for each are attached and these restrictions are marked in red)
 - a. Front (Town) Beach, Lyme Regis (map 3)

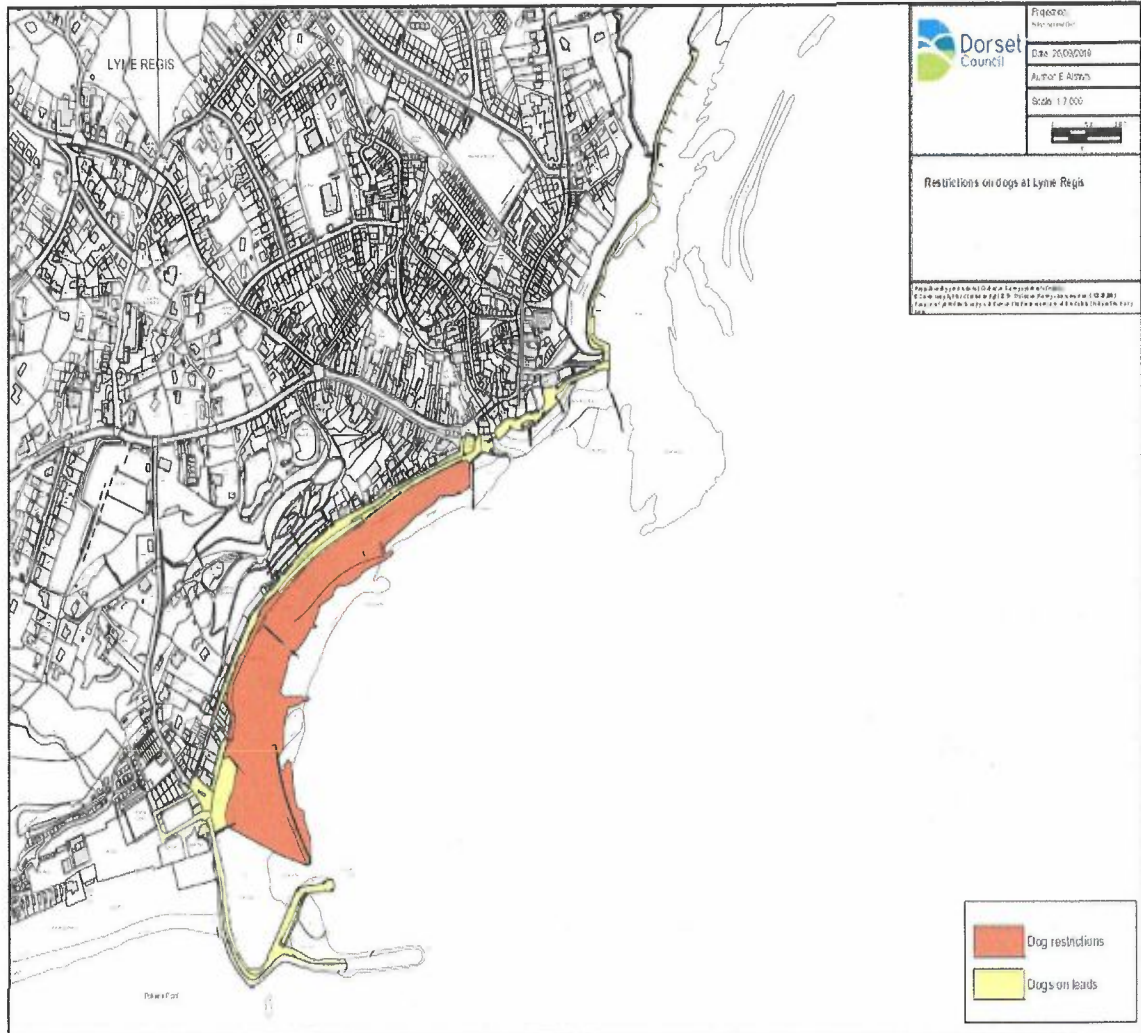
Map 1 - The Front Beach Swanage



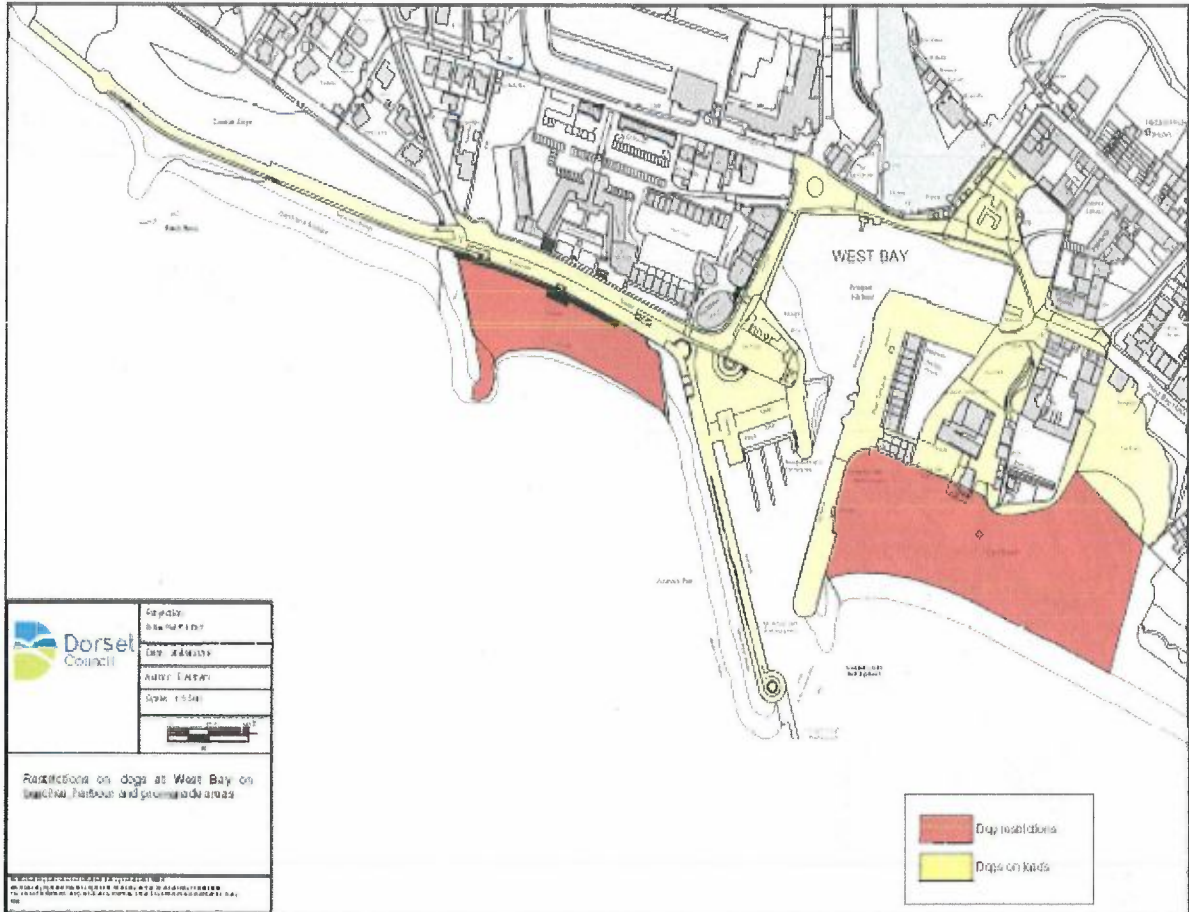
Map 2 - Charmouth Beaches



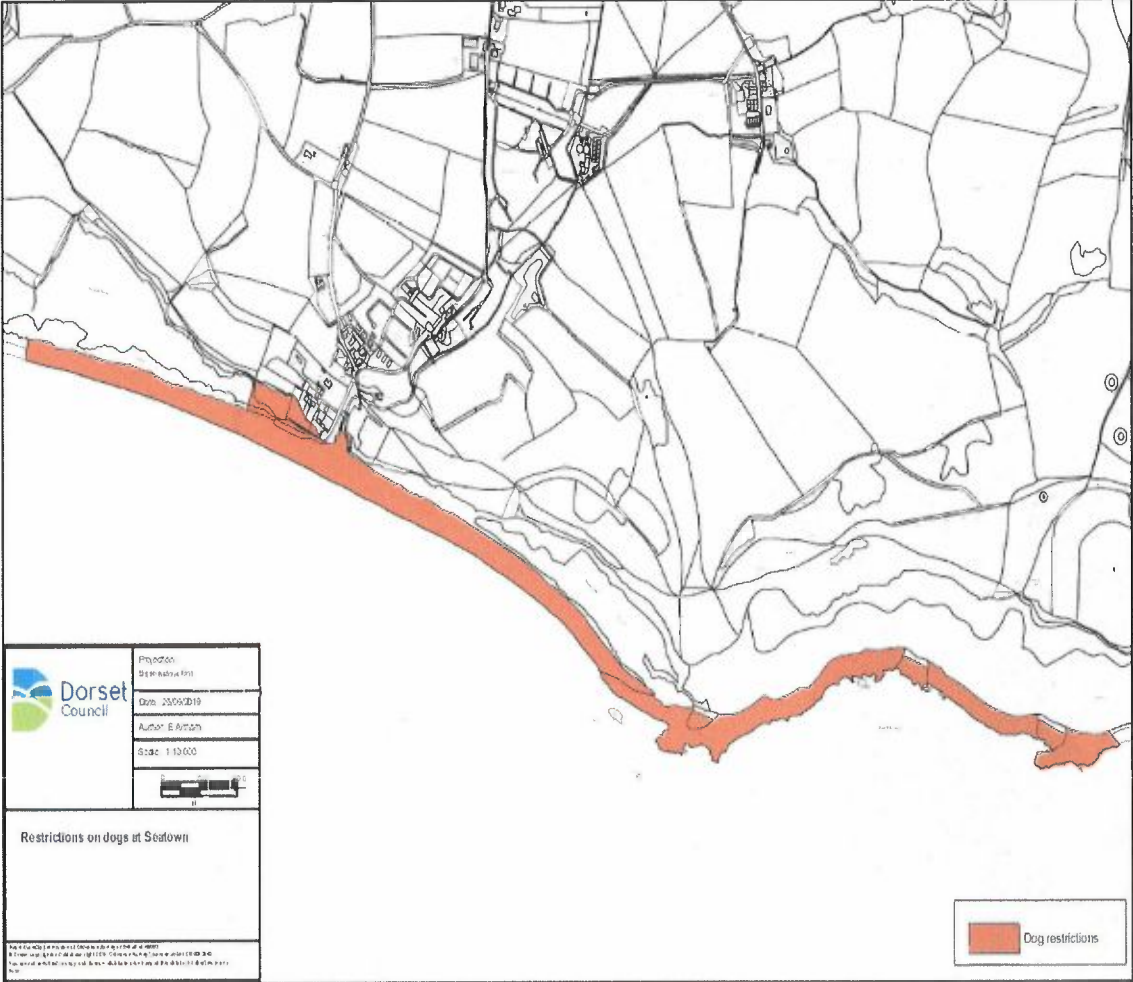
Map 3 Front Town Beach Lyme Regis



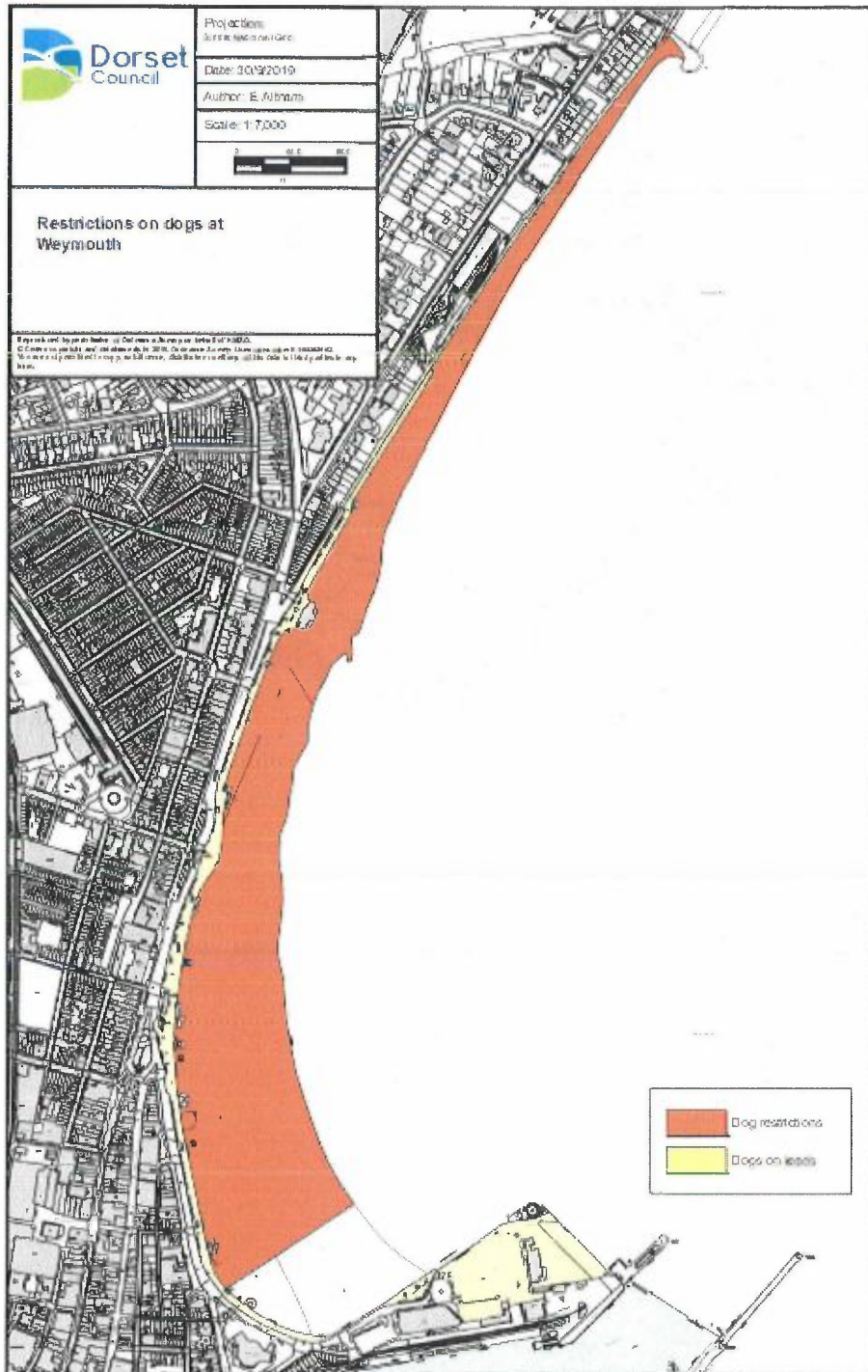
Map 4 – East and West Beach West Bay



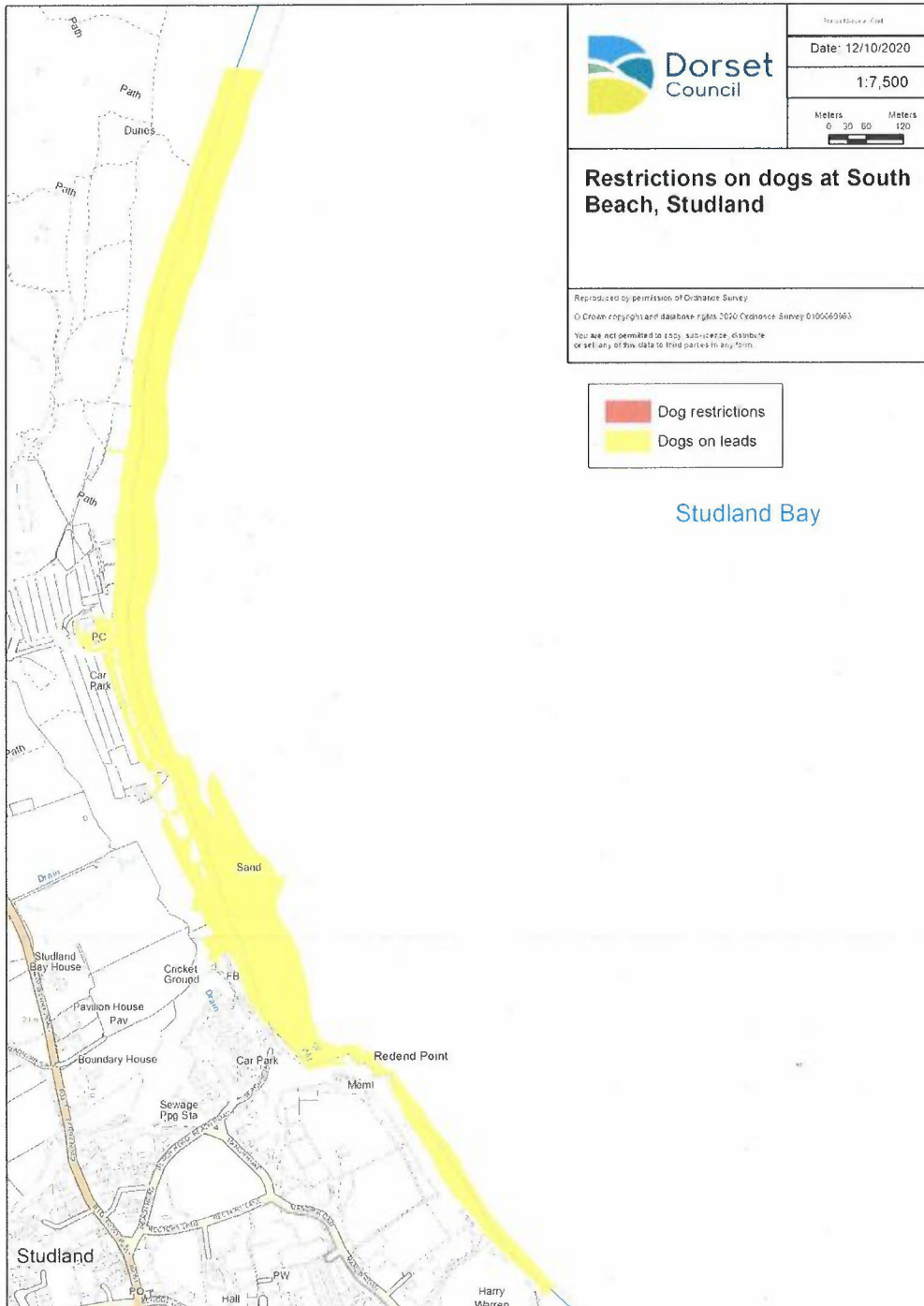
Map 5 - Seatown Beach, Chideock



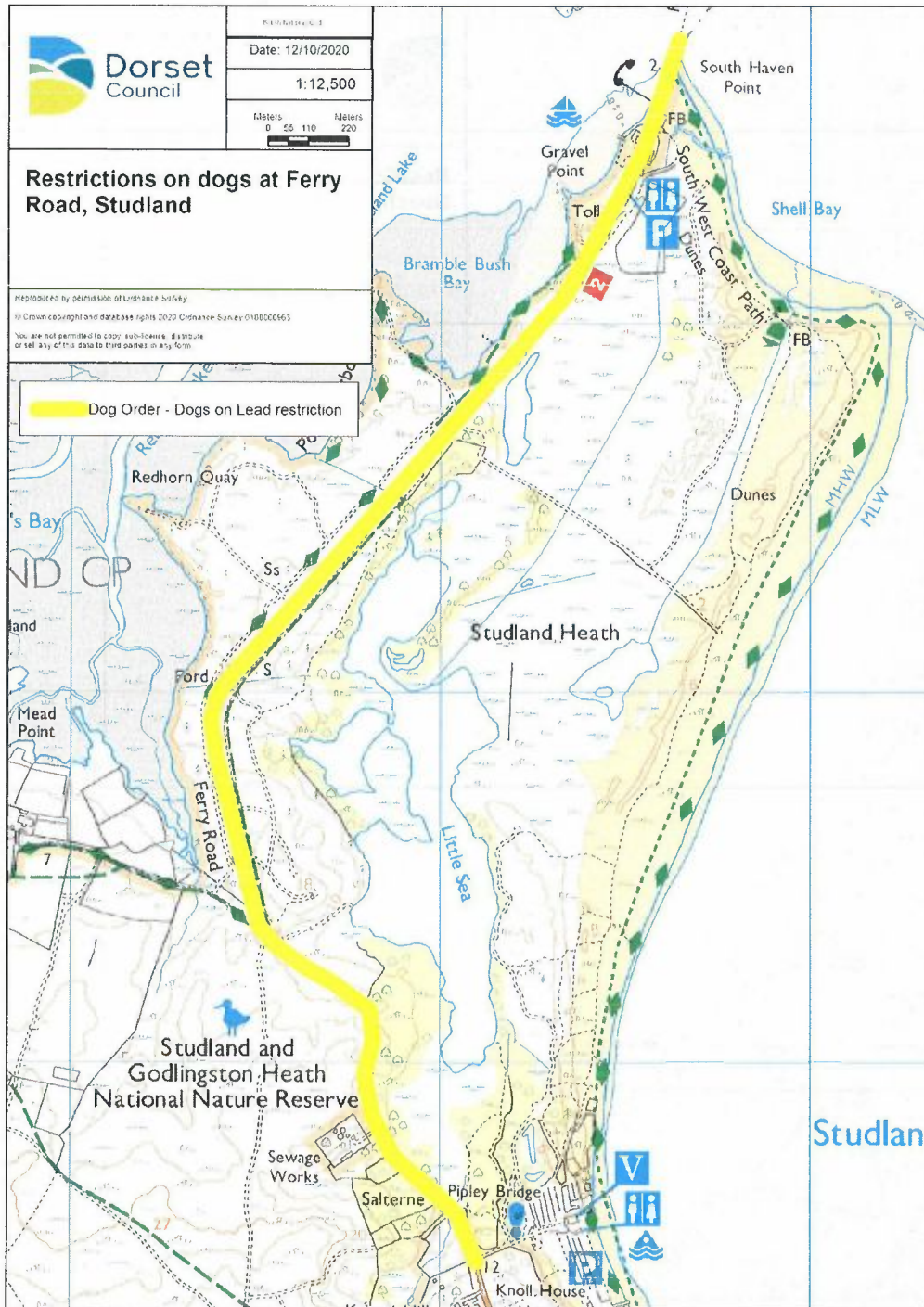
Map 6 - Weymouth Central Beach



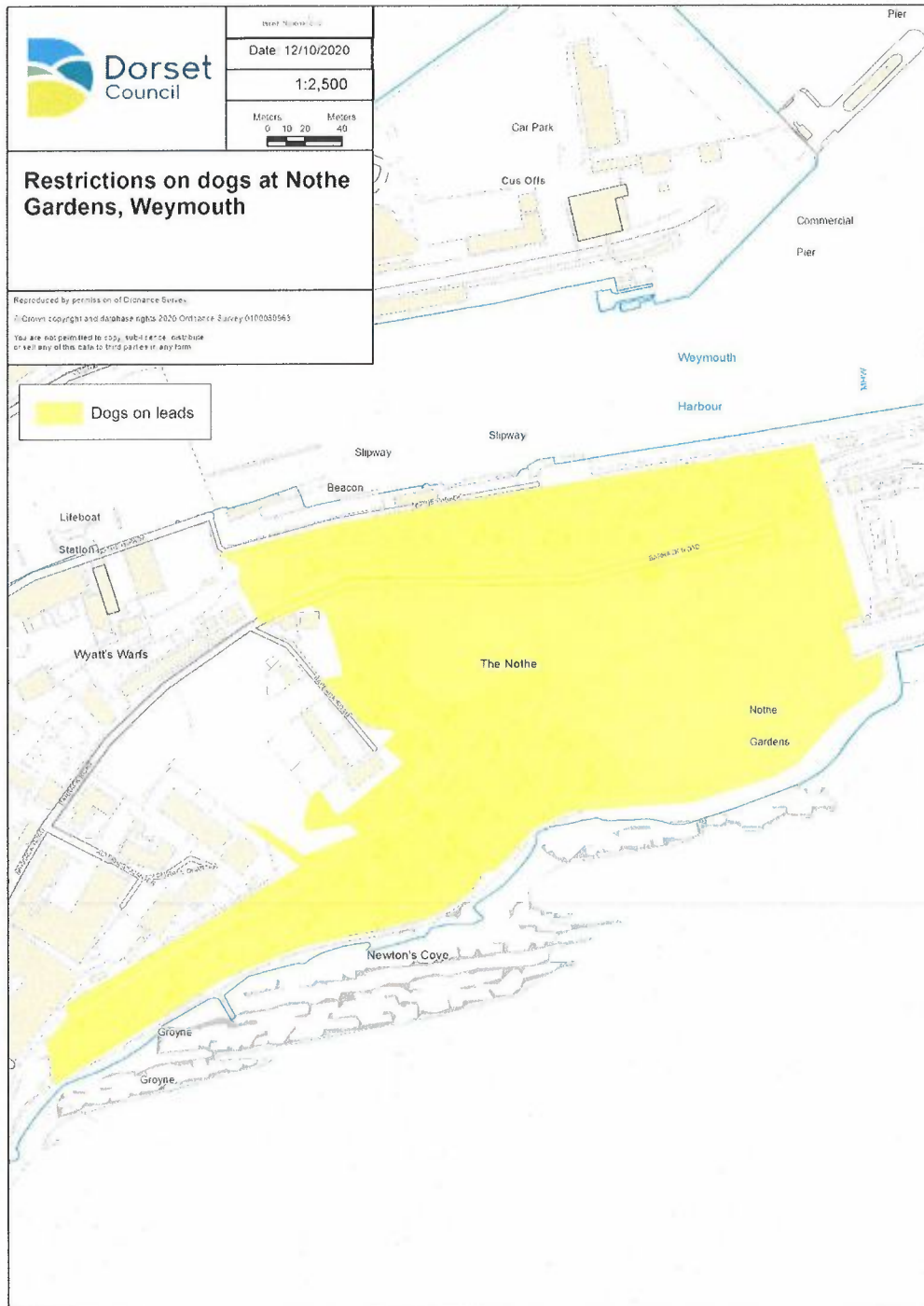
Map 7 Studland Beaches



Map 8 Ferry Road and access points to beach



Map 9 Nothe Gardens

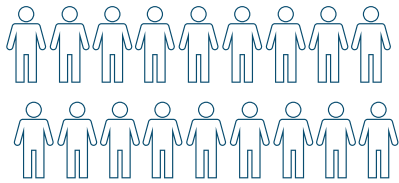


Proposed Dog - Related Public Spaces Protection Order

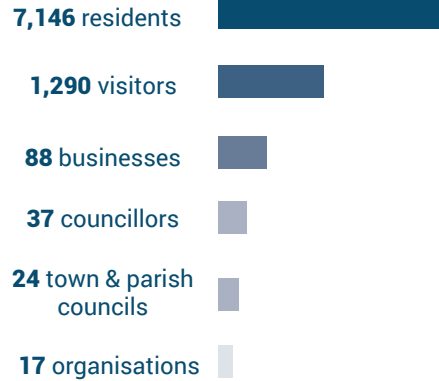
Consultation headlines report June 2020 This is what you told us

A very high response rate

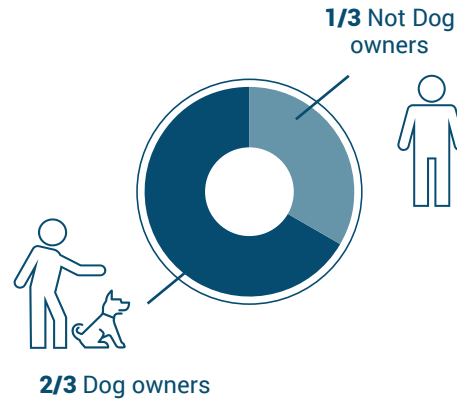
8,600 responses



Responses from all over the county and beyond



Number of dog owners who responded



Most visitors responding were dog owners



560 disabled people responded

560



Strong views either way with dog owners and non-dog owners often taking opposite views



400 pages of comments

400



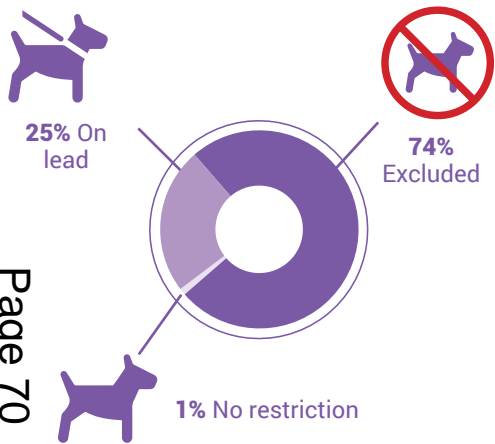
97% thought owners should clear up after their dog in public



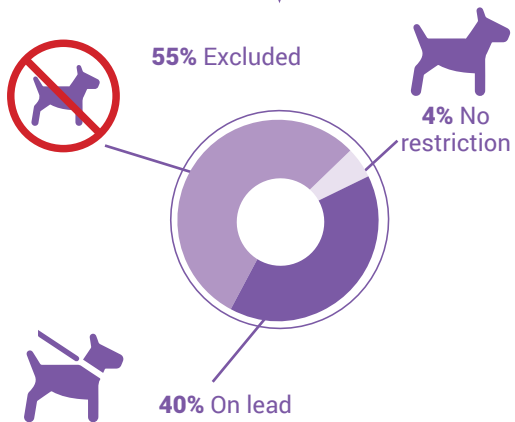
Dog exclusion areas and dogs on leads - what you told us

Page 70

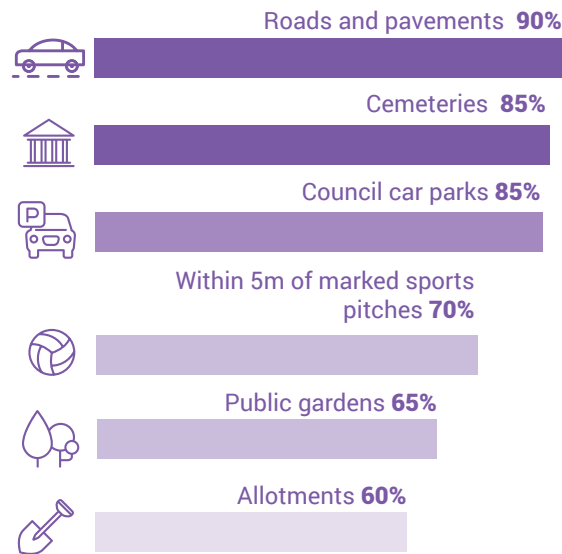
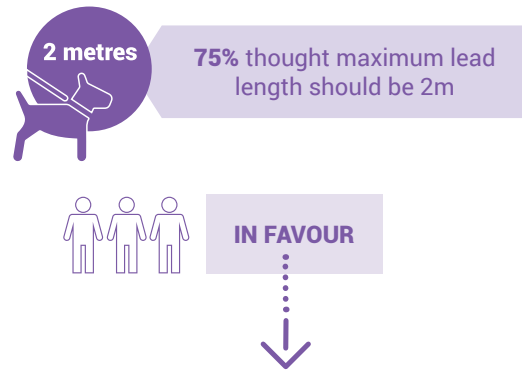
Enclosed Children's Play Areas



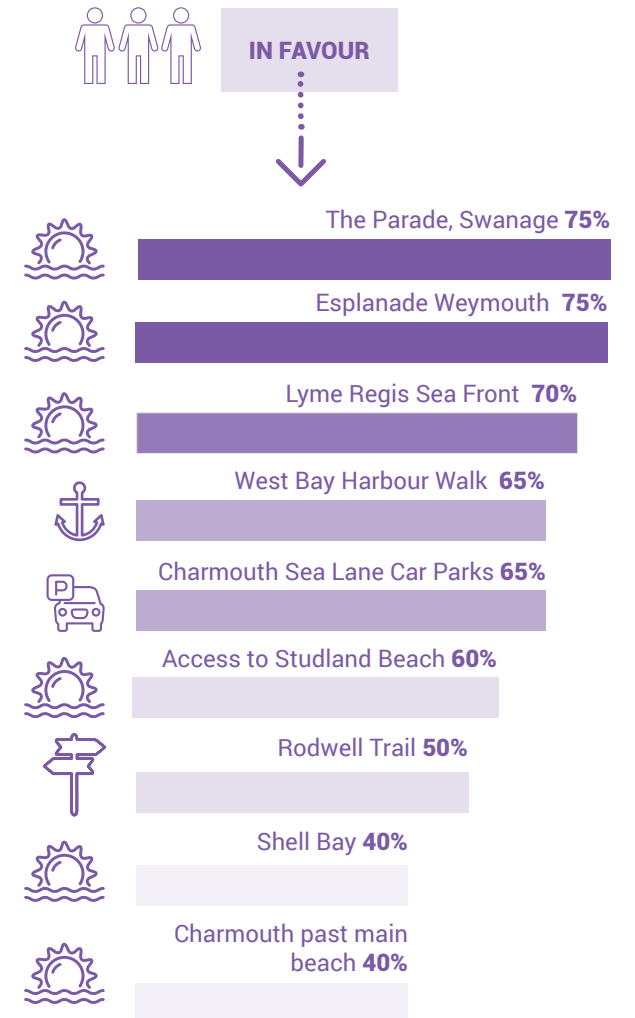
Marked Sports Pitches and Recreation Areas



Dogs on leads in specific locations



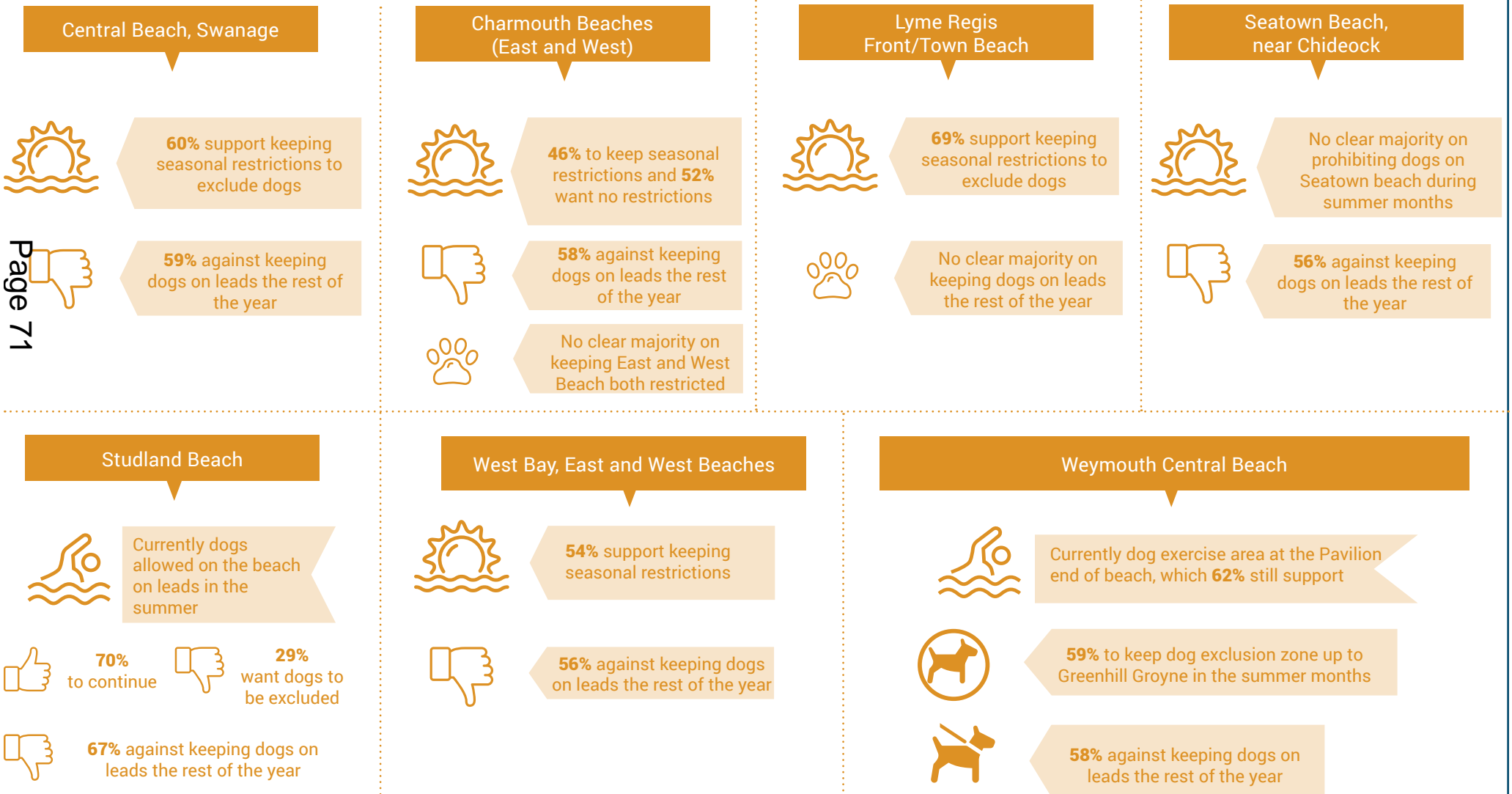
Dogs on leads in specific areas



Beaches – Seasonal Dog Restrictions - what you told us

One key message is there is strong support for harmonised Dorset Council area beach restrictions supported by 74% of respondents

There is also a clear preference in time period of restriction being 1 May - 30 September



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Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee – DRAFT Forward Plan

Title	Description	Date of committee meeting	Requested by	Report author	Portfolio Holder	Other meetings? (SLT / CLT / Cabinet)
Local Land Charges Service Update	An update on local land charges service performance	8 March 2022	Committee at September 2021 meeting	Grace Evans – Head of Legal Services	Cllr Jill Haynes – Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development & Change	
Post Implementation Review of the Dog-related Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)	To review the implementation of the 3-year Dog-related PSPO which came into effect on 1 January 2021	8 March 2022	Chairman of committee	Janet Moore – Service Manager, Environmental Protection	Cllr Laura Miller – Portfolio Holder for Customer & Community Services	
Performance Scrutiny	To review the most recent performance information and use this to agree items to add to the committee forward plan for further analysis	8 March 2022	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	Cllr Jill Haynes-Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development & Change	

Title	Description	Date of committee meeting	Requested by	Report author	Portfolio Holder	Other meetings? (SLT / CLT / Cabinet)
Dorset Highways Works Term Service Contract	An overview of the performance of the Dorset Highways Works Term Service Contract in 2020-21	25 April 2022	David Clegg – Service Manager for Network Operations	David Clegg – Service Manager for Network Operations	Cllr Ray Bryan – Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel & Environment	
Review and update: summary of alternative service provision following closure of tourist information centres (TICs) in 2021	To set out the alternative service provision arrangements that have been developed by town council & communities since closing TICs in Dorchester, Sherborne & Wareham in 2021	26 May 2022	Chairman of committee	Lisa Cotton – Head of Customer Services, Libraries & Archives	Cllr Laura Miller – Portfolio Holder for Customer & Community Services	
Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy – progress report	To present the bi-annual progress report on the Dorset Council Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy	26 May 2022	Officer request	Antony Littlechild – Team Manager Sustainability	Cllr Ray Bryan – Portfolio Holder for Travel, Highways & Environment	

Title	Description	Date of committee meeting	Requested by	Report author	Portfolio Holder	Other meetings? (SLT / CLT / Cabinet)
Plans for Summer 2022 operations in Dorset	Progress of plans for summer 2022 operations for tourism in Dorset	26 May 2022 tbc	Committee at meeting on 25 January 2022	Graham Duggan – Head of Community & Public Protection	Cllr Ray Bryan – Portfolio Holder for Travel, Highways & Environment	
Performance Scrutiny	To review the most recent performance information and use this to agree items to add to the committee forward plan for further analysis	5 July 2022	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	Cllr Jill Haynes - Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development & Change	
Property Strategy & Asset Management Plan Annual Monitoring Report	Review and comment upon progress in achieving the actions identified in the Property & Asset Management Strategy Action Plan and areas needing to be given priority.	13 September 2022	Committee request	Peter Hopkins - Corporate Director – Assets & Property	Cllr Tony Ferrari – Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth, Assets & Property	

Title	Description	Date of committee meeting	Requested by	Report author	Portfolio Holder	Other meetings? (SLT / CLT / Cabinet)
Performance Scrutiny	To review the most recent performance information and use this to agree items to add to the committee forward plan for further analysis	10 November 2022	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	Cllr Jill Haynes - Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development & Change	
Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy – progress report	To present the bi-annual progress report on the Dorset Council Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy	10 November 2022	Officer request	Antony Littlechild – Team Manager Sustainability	Cllr Ray Bryan – Portfolio Holder for Travel, Highways & Environment	
Budget Scrutiny (Single Item meeting)	Consideration of the budget proposals before proceeding to produce the final budget paper for recommendation to Cabinet on 17 January 2023.	9 December 2022	Part of annual budget process	Jim McManus – Corporate Director – Finance & Commercial	Cllr Gary Suttle – Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial & Capital Strategy	Cabinet – 17 January 2023 Full Council – 14 February 2023

Title	Description	Date of committee meeting	Requested by	Report author	Portfolio Holder	Other meetings? (SLT / CLT / Cabinet)
Corporate Complaints Team – Annual Report	An overview of the volume and impacts of Dorset Council’s complaints through the Corporate Complaints Team 2021/22	26 January 2023	Antony Bygrave – Senior Assurance Officer - Complaints	Antony Bygrave – Senior Assurance Officer - Complaints	Cllr Jill Haynes - Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development & Change	
Performance Scrutiny	To review the most recent performance information and use this to agree items to add to the committee forward plan for further analysis	30 March 2022	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	Cllr Jill Haynes - Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development & Change	

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The Cabinet Forward Plan - February 2022 to May 2022 (Publication date 1 February 2022) Updated on 17022022

Explanatory Note:

This Forward Plan contains future items to be considered by the Cabinet and Council. It is published 28 days before the next meeting of the Committee. The plan includes items for the meeting including key decisions. Each item shows if it is 'open' to the public or to be considered in a private part of the meeting.

Definition of Key Decisions

Key decisions are defined in Dorset Council's Constitution as decisions of the Cabinet which are likely to -

- (a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates (**Thresholds - £500k**); or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority."

In determining the meaning of "*significant*" for these purposes the Council will have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 9Q of the Local Government Act 2000 Act. Officers will consult with lead members to determine significance and sensitivity.

Cabinet Portfolio Holders 2021/22

Spencer Flower	Leader / Governance, Performance and Communications
Peter Wharf	Deputy Leader / Adult Social Care and Health
Gary Suttle	Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy
Ray Bryan	Highways, Travel and Environment
Graham Carr-Jones	Housing and Community Safety
Jill Haynes	Corporate Development and Transformation
Laura Miller	Customer and Community Services
Andrew Parry	Children, Education, Skills and Early Help
Tony Ferrari	Economic Growth, Assets & Property
David Walsh	Planning

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
March					
<p>Procurement Forward Plan Report - over £500K (2022-23)</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>Cabinet is required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500k or more. This report provides a list of anticipated procurement activity for the period 2022-23.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 1 Mar 2022</p>		<p>Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy</p>	<p><i>Dawn Adams, Service Manager for Commercial and Procurement</i> <i>dawn.adams@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>
<p>Charmouth Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2035</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>The report relates to the making (adoption) of the Charmouth Parish Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 1 Mar 2022</p>		<p>Portfolio Holder for Planning</p>	<p><i>Ed Gerry, Principal Planning Policy Team Leader</i> <i>ed.gerry@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i></p>
<p>Proposed Blue Badge Car Park Charging Policy</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>The purpose of this policy is to align the offer that Dorset Council</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 1 Mar 2022</p>	<p>Place and Resources Overview Committee 10 Feb 2022</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment</p>	<p><i>Elizabeth Murray, Strategic Parking Project Manager</i> <i>elizabeth.murray@dorsetcc.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
gives to Blue Badge holders within Dorset Council car parks.					
<p>QE Leisure Centre Future Management</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>Feedback on the recent consultation of QE Leisure Centre and the Council's consideration to its ongoing role in the management arrangements at the centre.</p>	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 1 Mar 2022	Place and Resources Overview Committee 10 Feb 2022	Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services	<i>Paul Rutter, Service Manager for Leisure Services paul.rutter@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i>
<p>Building Better Lives - Purbeck Gateway</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider a recommendation to proceed with the project and approval of delivery route</p>	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 1 Mar 2022		Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Safety	<i>Adam Fitzgerald, Building Better Lives Programme Manager adam.fitzgerald@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
<p>Determination of Dorset Council Coordinated Admissions Arrangements 2022/2024</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>There was a statutory requirement to determine the admission arrangements for voluntary controlled and community schools</p>	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 1 Mar 2022		Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help	<i>Ed Denham, School Admissions Manager ed.denham@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
in Dorset and to agree the co-ordinated scheme for the management of applications for the 2023/ 24 academic year.					
Review of the Highways Asset Management Plan Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To review the Highways Asset Management Plan	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 1 Mar 2022	Place and Resources Overview Committee 10 Feb 2022	Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment	<i>Jack Wiltshire, Head of Highways jack.wiltshire@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i>
Bus Back Better Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Dorset Council must establish an Enhanced Partnership with local bus operators in order to deliver its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) which was approved by Cabinet in September 2021 and submitted to Government in October.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 1 Mar 2022		Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment	<i>Sue McGowan, Head of Travel Dorset s.m.mcgowan@dorsetcc.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i>
Extension of ASB - Related Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's) Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open The existing ASB-related Public Spaces Protection Order for West Dorset (Dorchester, Bridport, West	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 1 Mar 2022		Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Safety	<i>John Newcombe, Service Manager, Licensing & Community Safety john.newcombe@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i> <i>Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
<p>Bay and Lyme Regis) is due to expire on 22 April 2022. New draft Orders have been prepared and have gone out to public consultation however the new Orders will not be ready for implementation until later in the year. An extension to the current Order is sought.</p>					
<p>Leisure Services Review Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Part exempt</p> <p>An update on the Leisure Review with a decision required on the future approach to service delivery and the extension of existing leisure contracts.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 1 Mar 2022</p>		<p>Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services</p>	<p><i>Paul Rutter, Service Manager for Leisure Services paul.rutter@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i></p>
<p>Review of Redundancy Multiplier Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Fully exempt</p> <p>To agree the level of redundancy enhancement for all Dorset Council employees from 1 April 2022, following the end of the current agreement. To receive an update on the progress of the introduction of exit pay cap legislation</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 1 Mar 2022</p>		<p>Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development and Transformation</p>	<p><i>Chris Matthews, Service Manager - HR Operations christopher.matthews@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i></p>
<p>Adult Social Care - Future Services</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 1 Mar 2022</p>		<p>Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for</p>	<p><i>Lesley Hutchinson, Corporate Director for</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
<p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Fully exempt</p> <p>To seek a decision on the provision of future services for Adult Social Care.</p>				Adult Social Care and Health	<p><i>Adults Commissioning</i> <i>Lesley.Hutchinson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Adults</i></p>
<p>April</p>					

<p>Quarter 4 Council Plan Monitoring Report</p> <p>Key Decision - No Public Access - Open</p> <p>A quarterly report on the delivery of the council's plan</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 5 Apr 2022</p>		<p>Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development and Transformation</p>	<p><i>Bridget Downton, Head of Chief Executive's Office</i> <i>bridget.downton@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive (Matt Prosser)</i></p>
<p>Education Leadership Board Report</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>Report regarding the Education Leadership Board</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 5 Apr 2022</p>	<p>People and Health Overview Committee 24 Mar 2022</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help</p>	<p><i>Vik Verma, Interim Director of Education and Learning</i> <i>vik.verma@dorsetcc.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i></p>
<p>Annual Self Evaluation of Children's Services</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To receive the annual self-evaluation report.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 5 Apr 2022</p>	<p>People and Health Scrutiny Committee 19 May 2022</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help</p>	<p><i>Claire Shiels, Corporate Director - Commissioning, Quality & Partnerships</i> <i>claire.shiels@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
Residential Review Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To consider the Residential Review.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 5 Apr 2022	People and Health Overview Committee 24 Mar 2022	Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help	<i>Louise Drury, Head of Service Children in Care and Care Leavers louise.drury@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>
Safeguarding Families: New Model Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To consider the report.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 5 Apr 2022	People and Health Overview Committee 24 Mar 2022	Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help	<i>Lisa Reid, Consultant Quality Assurance lisa.reid@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>
Commissioning Strategy Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To consider the report.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 5 Apr 2022	People and Health Overview Committee 24 Mar 2022	Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help	<i>Claire Shiels, Corporate Director - Commissioning, Quality & Partnerships claire.shiels@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>
Yetminster and Ryme Intrinsic Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2036 Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open The item relates to the making (adoption) of the Yetminster and Ryme Intrinsic Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2036 subject to a favourable result in the referendum which is due to be held on the 22 February 2022.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 5 Apr 2022		Portfolio Holder for Planning	<i>Ed Gerry, Principal Planning Policy Team Leader ed.gerry@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i>
Anti-social Behaviour Public Space	Decision Maker	Decision Date	Place and Resources	Portfolio Holder for	<i>John Newcombe, Service</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
<p>Protection Orders</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>A review of the existing Anti-social Behaviour Public Spaces Protection Orders for Weymouth & Portland, Dorchester, Bridport, West Bay and Lyme Regis as well as consideration of supplementary orders to tackle antisocial behaviour in additional areas as identified by the Community Safety Team in consultation with the Police.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>5 Apr 2022</p>	<p>Overview Committee</p>	<p>Customer and Community Services, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Safety</p>	<p><i>Manager, Licensing & Community Safety john.newcombe@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i></p>
<p>May</p>					

<p>Revised Inter Authority Agreement for Joint Archives Service</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>The item is subject to internal governance at BCP Council and may be delayed if unable to progress in time for cut off dates at Dorset Council.</p> <p>Please note: Moved from March to</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 May 2022</p>		<p>Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services</p>	<p><i>Lisa Cotton, Head of Customer Services, Libraries & Archives lisa.cotton@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren), Corporate Director, Legal and Democratic Services - Monitoring Officer (Jonathan Mair)</i></p>
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Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
<p>May meeting subject to BCP confirming that their side of the work can be completed.</p>					
<p>Dorset Council Air Quality Action Plan</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>A report summarising the findings from the Air Quality Action Plan Consultation together with an attached draft Air Quality Action Plan.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 May 2022</p>	<p>Place and Resources Overview Committee 21 Apr 2022</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services</p>	<p><i>Janet Moore, Environmental Health Team Leader and Health Projects Manager Janet.Moore@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (John Sellgren)</i></p>
<p>June</p>					
<p>Finance report - outturn 2021/2022</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider the Council's performance against its revenue budget in 2021/22 and the impact this has upon reserves, including the general fund.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 21 Jun 2022</p>		<p>Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy</p>	<p><i>Jim McManus, Corporate Director - Finance and Commercial J.McManus@dorsetcc.gov.uk Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>
<p>July</p>					

Quarter 1 Council Plan Monitoring	Decision Maker	Decision Date		Portfolio Holder for	Rebecca Forrester,
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Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
Report Key Decision - No Public Access - Open A quarterly report on the delivery of the council's plan	Cabinet	26 Jul 2022		Corporate Development and Transformation	<i>Business Intelligence & Performance</i> <i>rebecca.forrester@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive (Matt Prosser)</i>
September					

October

Quarter 2 Council Plan Monitoring Report Key Decision - No Public Access - Open A quarterly report on the delivery of the council's plan	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 4 Oct 2022		Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development and Transformation	<i>Rebecca Forrester,</i> <i>Business Intelligence & Performance</i> <i>rebecca.forrester@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive (Matt Prosser)</i>
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Private/Exempt Items for Decision

Each item in the plan above marked as 'private' will refer to one of the following paragraphs.

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the shadow council proposes:-
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

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Date of committee: 18 January 2022

Date published 19 January 2022

Date of implementation: 27 January 2022

**DECISIONS OF THE CABINET
18 JANUARY 2022**

The following decisions were made by the Cabinet on 18 January 2022 and will come into force and may be implemented on 27 January 2022 unless the decision is called in for scrutiny.

In accordance with the council's constitution, any six members of the same relevant Scrutiny Committee may request the Monitoring Officer to 'call-in' a decision for scrutiny. The Monitoring Officer will be provided with written notice that will identify the decision to be called-in and the ground for the call-in when the request is made. If satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for the proposed call-in, the Monitoring Officer will notify the decision-maker of the call-in within 5 clear working days. The deadline for this request is **26 January 2022.**

The full call-in procedure is set out in the Constitution or for further information and advice please telephone Kate Critchel on 01305 252234

5 COUNCIL PLAN: PERFORMANCE REPORT OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021

Noted

Cabinet noted the progress made against the council plan for the period October-December 2021.

Reason to note and receive the report

To ensure progress towards the Council Plan is monitored.

6 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT QUARTER 3 2021/22

Noted

- (a) That the senior leadership team's forecast of outturn at the end of Quarter 3, including progress of the transformation and tactical savings incorporated into the budget be noted.
- (b) That the position on the capital programme at the stage and the likelihood of significant slippage into 2022/23, as referenced throughout the budget setting work, be noted.
- (c) That the downgrading of the risk assessment for the financial performance for the final quarter of the current year be agreed.

Reason to note and receive the report

The Council had responsibilities to deliver within its corporate plan and it must do this within the resources made available through the revenue and capital budgets for 2021/22. The report summarised the Council's forecast financial performance for 2021/22 at the Quarter 3 point of the year.

7 BUDGET STRATEGY REPORT

8 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROVISION TENDER FOR IMPLEMENTATION FROM SEPTEMBER 2022

Decision of the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help

- (a) That the procurement process, as set out in the report, be agreed.
- (a) That the further step of making any contract award be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help in consultation with the Executive Director of People – Children.

Reason for the decision

Cabinet is required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500k or more. The current contractual arrangements would come to an end in August 2022 and local authorities were required to arrange alternative education for children pupils who, because of exclusion, illness or other reasons, would not otherwise receive a suitable education (Alternative Provision Guidance, 2013).

[Decision - Alternative Education Provision tender for Implementation from September 2022 - Dorset Council](#)

9 "ROC" REDUCING REPEAT REMOVALS OF CHILDREN INTO CARE PROJECT PROCUREMENT APPROVAL

Decision of Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help

- (a) To agree, the procurement process for a holistic programme for vulnerable women who have experienced, or are at risk of, repeat removals of children from their care, "Pause Practice" in Dorset.
- (b) That the further step of making any contract award be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help in consultation with the Executive Director of People – Children.

Reason for the decision

Cabinet is required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500,000 or more.

[Decision - 'ROC' - Reducing Repeat Removals of Children in Care Project Procurement Approval - Dorset Council](#)

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